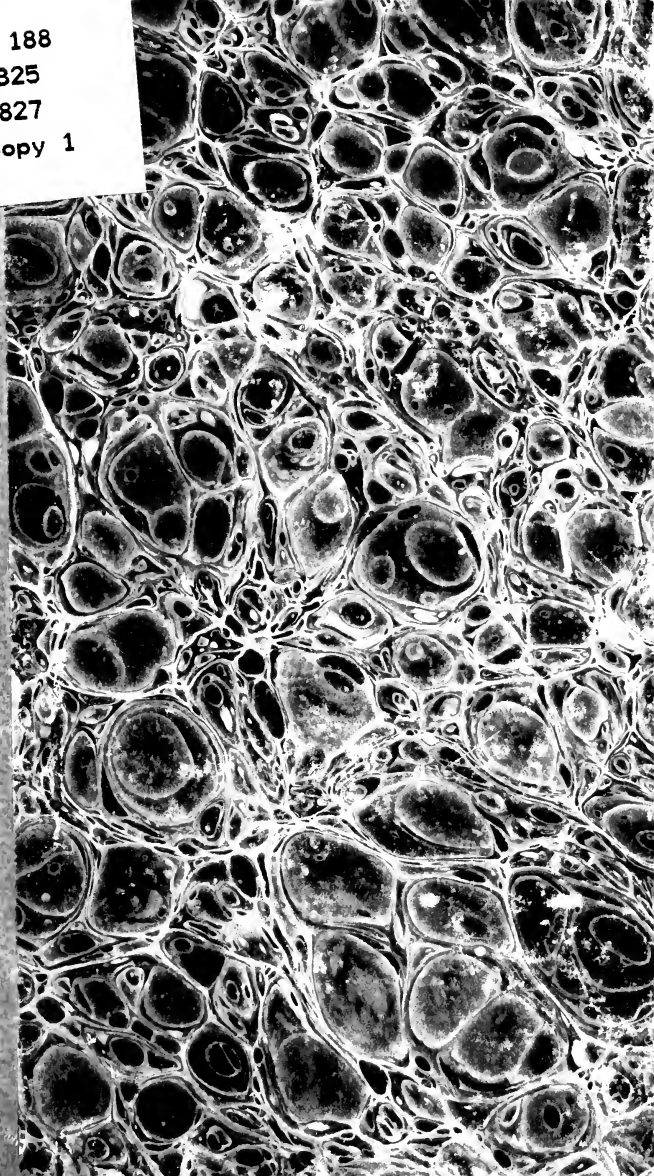


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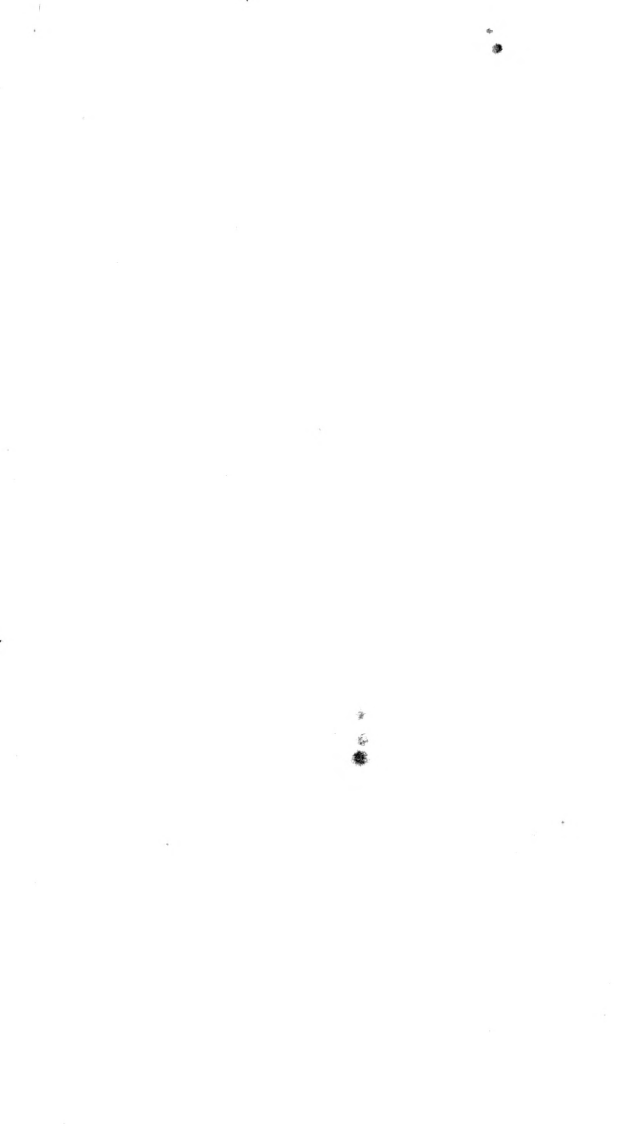


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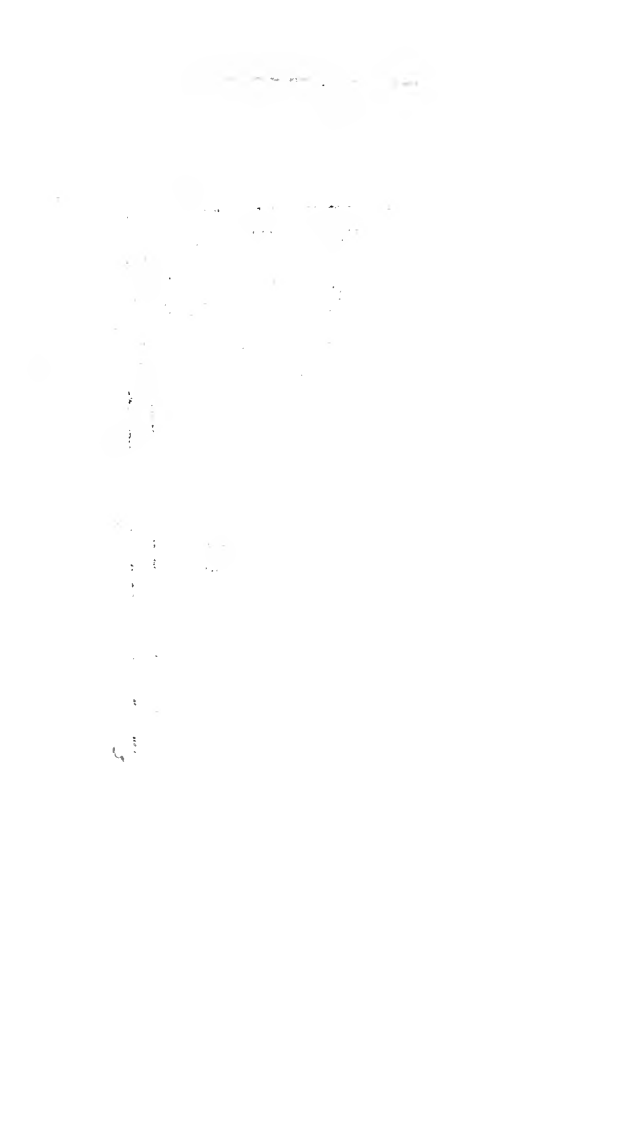
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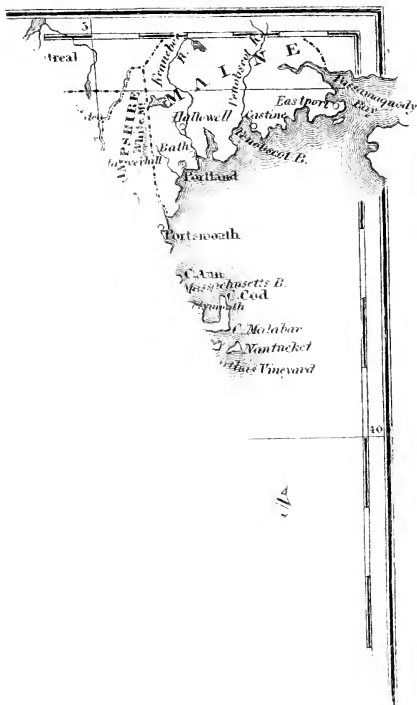














# HISTORICAL SCENES

THE

# UNITED STATES

OR  
A SELECTION OF IMPORTANT AND INTERESTING  
EVENTS IN THE HISTORY OF THE  
**United States.**

*Illustrated by numerous Engravings.*



NEW-HAVEN:

PUBLISHED BY MONSON AND CO.

1827.

24922

*DISTRICT OF CONNECTICUT, ss.*

BE IT REMEMBERED, That on the twenty-first day of March, in the fifty-first year of the Independence of the United States of America, JOHN W. BARBER, of the said District, hath deposited in this office the title of a Book, the right whereof he claims as Author and Proprietor, in the words following, to wit :

“Historical Scenes in the United States, or a selection of important and interesting events in the history of the United States. Illustrated by numerous Engravings.”

In conformity to the act of Congress of the United States, entitled, “An Act for the encouragement of learning, by securing the copies of Maps, Charts and Books, to the authors and proprietors of such copies, during the times therein mentioned.”—And also to the act, entitled “An act supplementary to an act, entitled ‘An act for the encouragement of learning, by securing the copies of maps, charts, and books, to the authors and proprietors of such copies during the times therein mentioned,’ and extending the benefits thereof to the arts of designing, engraving, and etching historical and other prints.”

CHAS. A. INGERSOLL,

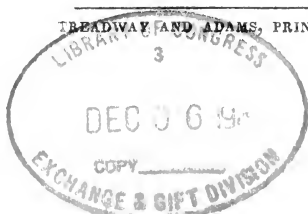
*Clerk of the District of Connecticut.*

A true copy of Record, examined and sealed by me,

CHAS. A. INGERSOLL,

*Clerk of the District of Connecticut.*

BROADWAY AND ADAMS, PRINTERS.



## PREFACE.



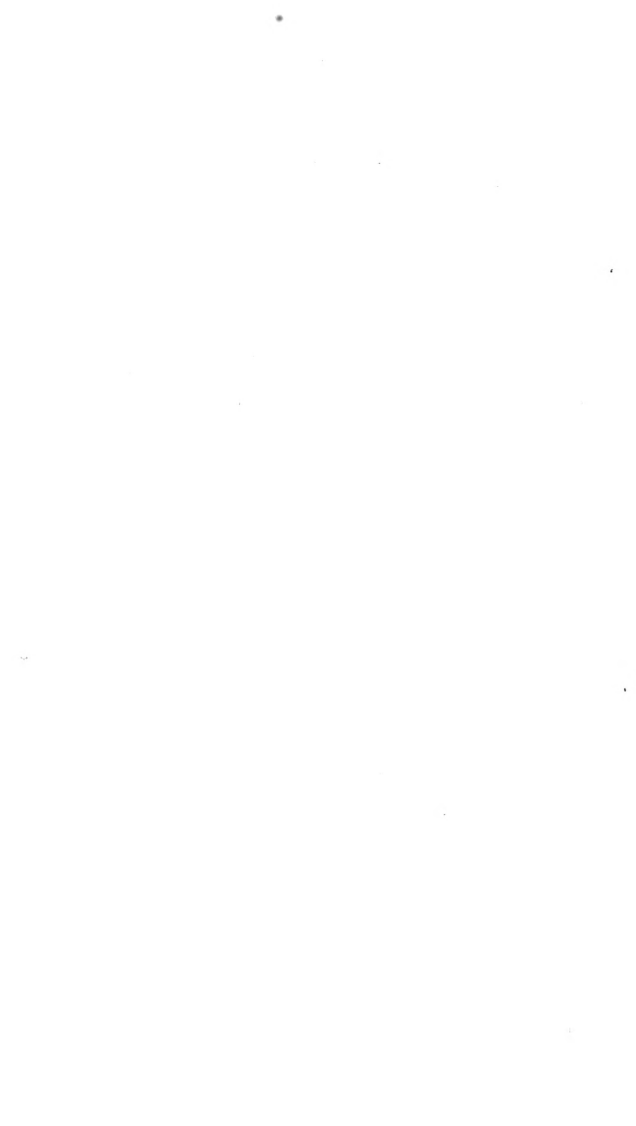
THE object of this little work is to present to the youthful reader a concise and comprehensive account of some of the most important and interesting events which have taken place in the history of our country, arranged in a chronological order.

In compiling this Book a variety of works have been consulted, and care has been taken, that the events herein recorded should be drawn from the most authentic sources, and in some instances the same words of the different authors are used.

It is believed that the *Engraving* which accompanies each scene, will be of much utility in assisting the memory to retain the *facts* mentioned.

It is also believed that this work might be used with advantage in many of our schools, and for this purpose *Questions* on each scene are inserted at the end of the Book. A Chronological Table is likewise added, containing some of the most important events which have taken place in the history of the United States, arranged under their respective heads.

NEW-HAVEN, 1827.





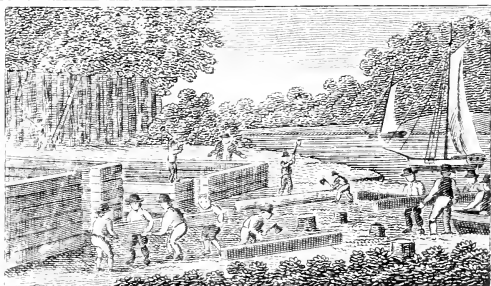
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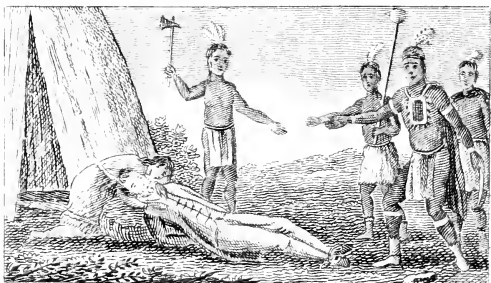
Virginia

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Virginia

3



## Sketches, &c.



### (1.) *Native Indians.*

BEFORE the arrival of the European settlers the whole of what is now the United States was an unbroken wilderness inhabited by small tribes or clans of Indians. Where many of our populous cities and villages rise, was then a gloomy forest, resounding with the howlings of wild beasts and the terrific yells of the savages.

The native Indians of North America were divided into many small tribes, governed by their sachems, or kings, and were often at war with each other.

In their persons the Indians were tall, straight, and well proportioned. In their councils they were distinguished for their gravity and eloquence ; in war for bravery, stratagem, and revenge.

Hunting, fishing, and war, was the employment of the men. The women were compelled to till the field, and to perform the drudgery of their domestic affairs.

Their dress in summer consisted chiefly of a slight covering about the waist ; in winter they clothed themselves with the skins of wild animals

They were extremely fond of ornaments, and on days of festivity and show they were painted with various colours and profusely ornamented with shells, beads, and feathers.

Their habitations which were called by the English *wigwams*, were constructed by erecting a strong pole for the centre, around which other poles a few feet distant were driven, and fastened to the centre pole at the top, then covered with mats and bark of trees, which rendered them a shelter from the weather.

Their warlike instruments and domestic utensils were few and simple :—a *tomahawk*, or hatchet of stone, bows and arrows, sharp stones and shells, which they used for knives and hoes, and stone mortars for pounding their corn. For money they used small beads curiously wrought from shells and strung on belts, or in chains, called *wampum*.

The Indians believed that they should exist after this life, and if they were good warriors and hunters, that they would after death find plenty of game, &c. ; accordingly when a person died they buried with him his bow and arrows, dogs and whatever else was valuable to him when living. They believed in the existence of two gods, the one good whom they called the *Great Spirit*, and the other *evil*. They considered the *Great Spirit* superior to the evil. They likewise worshipped



the sun, moon, fire, thunder, and any thing which they thought superior to themselves or capable of doing them an injury. Their manner of worship was to sing and dance around a large fire, and they sometimes sacrificed some animal to appease their evil deities when they were suffering affliction. They prayed to the Great Spirit for success when they set out on their enterprises of hunting or war.

In their most dangerous disorders they sent for their *Powaws*, or priests who used many spells and incantations for the recovery of the sick. These powaws had a great influence over the minds of the Indians.

The Indians appeared to have distinct traditions of the creation and deluge, and some of their words, rites, and ceremonies, bear a strong affinity to those of the ancient Hebrews.



## (2.) *Settlement at Jamestown in Virginia.*

THE first European who discovered the coast of the United States was John Cabot a Venetian, who was employed by Henry VII. of England to make discoveries. What is now called the Island of Newfoundland was first seen by him, and sailing thence in a westerly direction he ranged the

coast to Florida. This was in the year 1497—about five years after the first discoveries of Columbus.

After many unsuccessful attempts to establish a permanent settlement, Capt. Christopher Newport was sent out by a company in England with 150 colonists. After a voyage of four months they entered the Chesapeake bay and proceeded up a river called by the natives Powhattan, (now James River,) and landed May 1607, at the place which now bears the name of Jamestown. This was the first permanent colony in North America.



### (3.) *Pocahontas.*

AMONG the most enterprising and brave of the Virginia settlers was Capt. John Smith. Under a pretext of commerce he was drawn into an ambush of a numerous body of Indians, who seized him and carried him in triumph to Powhattan their king. Powhattan sentenced him to death. Capt. Smith was led out and his head was placed upon a large stone to receive the fatal blow. At this moment Pocahontas the youngest and darling daughter of Powhattan, then thirteen years old, rushed to the spot where Capt. Smith lay, threw her arms about his neck, and placed her own head on his, declaring that if the cruel sentence was executed



Massachusetts



Massachusetts





the first blow should fall on her. The sachem was moved—yielded to the entreaties of his daughter, and consented to spare his victim upon the condition of a ransom. The ransom was paid—Capt. Smith was released, and returned unhurt to Jamestown.



(4.) *Jamestown saved.*

In 1609, two or three years after Pocahontas saved the life of Capt. Smith, Powhattan formed a horrid scheme for the entire destruction of the colony at Jamestown. His project was, to attack them in time of peace, and to cut the throats of the whole colony.

In a dark and stormy night, Pocahontas, like an angel of mercy, hastened alone to Jamestown and discovered the inhuman plot of her father. The colonists thus warned, took proper measures to repel the insidious attack.

Pocahontas after this was married to an Englishman named Rolfe, with whom she went to England. She embraced the christian religion and took the baptismal name of Rebecca. After a residence of several years in England during which, she exemplified the religion she professed, she died as she was about embarking for America.

She left an only son who was married and left

none but daughters; from them descended some of the most respectable families in Virginia.



(5.) *Plymouth Settlers.*

The Colony at Plymouth, Mass. was planted principally for the sake of the free and undisturbed enjoyment of Religion. The colonists (who were generally known by the name of *Puritans*, which was intended as a reproachful epithet) were originally from the North of England.

During the reign of James I., they fled with their pastor from the persecutions of their enemies at home, to Amsterdam in Holland, in 1608. They afterwards removed to Leyden, where they remained until they sailed to America.

Having resolved upon a removal, they purchased two small ships and repaired to Plymouth, Eng.—Thence they proceeded about one hundred leagues, on their voyage, when they were compelled to return in consequence of one of the ships proving leaky. This ship was condemned, and the other being crowded with all the passengers that were embarked in both ships, again put to sea, September 6.

After encountering a tremendous gale, they arrived on the 10th Nov. at Cape Cod. The next

day they landed and immediately upon their knees returned thanks to the Almighty who had brought them thus far safely.

Before landing, they formed themselves into a "body politic" and Mr. John Carver was chosen their Governor for one year.

Parties for exploring the country were then despatched to find a suitable place for their future abode, and after reconnoitering several days, at length selected a scite for a settlement. The company approving the choice landed on the 22d day of December, 1620. They were divided into nineteen families and they each erected for themselves a habitation. On Sunday, December 31, they attended public worship for the first time in their settlement, and named the place *Plymouth*. This was the first settlement in New-England. A part of the rock on which they first stepped has been placed in the centre of the town, and is called at this day the *Fore-father's rock*. The anniversary of their landing is still celebrated by their descendants as a religious festival.



#### (6.) *Discovering Indian Corn.*

One of the exploring parties mentioned in the preceding account, consisted of sixteen men under

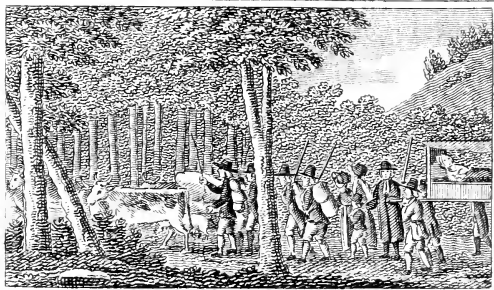
## Massachusetts

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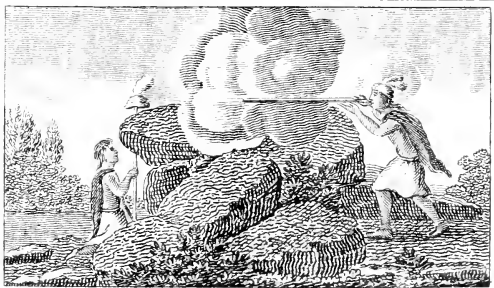
## Connecticut

8



## New England

9





was then given to the sachem “who drank a great draught, that made him sweat all the while after.” After eating they entered into a friendly treaty. They agreed to avoid injuries on both sides, to restore stolen goods, to assist each other in all just wars, and to endeavour to promote peace and harmony among their neighbours. This treaty was faithfully observed by Massasoit and his successors for more than forty years after.

In the year 1623, Massasoit was taken sick and sent information of it to the Governor, who sent two of his friends to make him a visit. Their visit and the presents which they brought, were very gratifying to Massasoit, and the medicines they administered were successful in restoring his health. Gratitude for their kindness prompted him to disclose a conspiracy of the Indians which had for its object the total destruction of the English. This timely notice averted the calamity.



### (3.) *Settlement of Connecticut.*

In 1635, October 15th, about sixty men, women and children from Dorchester, Mass. with their horses and cattle and swine, took up their march across the wilderness to Connecticut river. Their dangerous journey over mountains and rivers, and

through swamps they were two weeks in performing. "The forests through which they passed for the first time, resounded with the praises of God. They prayed and sang psalms and hymns; the Indians following them in silent admiration." It was so late in the season when they reached the place (now called Windsor) of their destination, that they were unable to find feed for their cattle, most of which died the ensuing winter.

Disappointed in receiving their provisions, famine threatened them, and those who remained through the winter were obliged to subsist on acorns, malt and grains.

The congregation at Newtown, (now Cambridge,) consisting of about one hundred men, women and children, with the Rev. Mr. Hooker their pastor at their head, also emigrated more than one hundred miles through a howling wilderness to Hartford. They had no guide but their compass, on their way they subsisted on milk, for they drove before them one hundred and sixty head of cattle. They were obliged to carry Mrs. Hooker upon a litter.

They began a plantation and called it *Newtown*, which name was afterwards exchanged for *Hartford*.

In the fall of 1637, a small party from Massachusetts journied to Connecticut to explore the lands and harbours on the sea coast. They chose

*Quinnipiac* for the place of their settlement and erected a poor hut in which a few men subsisted through the winter. And on the 30th of March following, a larger party sailed from Boston for *Quinnipiac*, where they arrived in about two weeks. This began the settlement of New-Haven.



(9.) *Stratagem of a Pequot Indian.*

Among the traits that mark the Indian character, those of *cunning* and stratagem are well known.

In one of the frequent wars among the different tribes of Indians, a Pequot was pursued by a Narraganset Indian. The Pequot skulked behind a rock and raised his hat upon his gun just above the rock, so that his hat only was seen from the other side. The Narraganset who was yet at some distance, perceiving the hat, and thinking of course that his head must also be there, crept softly up within a few feet and fired. But he directly found that he had thrown away his powder, while the Pequot had reserved his which he discharged to effect upon the poor Narragansett.



(10.) *Destruction of the Pequot Fort.*

The year 1637 is memorable in the history of

Connecticut for the war with the Pequot Indians—one of the most warlike and haughty tribes in New-England. Previous to the breaking out of the war, the Pequots had much annoyed the English, and murdered a number of them, whereupon a court was summoned at Hartford who determined upon a war with the Pequots. Ninety men were mustered from the towns of Hartford, Windsor and Wethersfield, being about half of the effective force of the whole colony. This expedition was commanded by Capt. Mason, assisted by Capt. Underhill. After an address from the Rev. Mr. Hooker, and being joined by *Uncas* the sachem of the Mohegans, they all proceeded down the river to Saybrook where they formed their plan of operations.

It was determined to attack the enemy in one of their principal forts (in the present town of Stonington,) where Sassacus their chief sachem had retired. Previous to the attack, Capt. Mason was joined by about five hundred Narraganset Indians, who, when they understood that they were to fight Sassacus, they betrayed much fear and retired to the rear, saying "*Sassacus was all one a god, and nobody could kill him.*"

The time fixed on at length arrived—the dawn of the 26th of May which was to decide the fate of

the Colony of Connecticut. The barking of a dog, when within a few rods of the fort announced their approach and aroused the Pequot centinel, who cried out *Owannux ! Owannux !* i. e. Englishmen ! Englishmen ! The Captains followed by their men, courageously pressed forward, found an entrance, and fired upon the enemy in the fort who made a desperate resistance. The destruction of the Pequots was terrible, yet the victory seemed doubtful. Captain Mason (who with his men were now nearly exhausted) seized a fire-brand and set fire to a wigwam, of which there were many in the fort, covered with mats and other combustible materials. The fire assisted by the wind spread rapidly, and directly the whole fort was in a flame. The roar and crackling of the flames with the yells of savages, and the discharge of musketry, formed an awful and terrific scene ! The troops who had now formed outside of the fort, with the friendly Indians who had by this time gathered courage to approach, surrounded the enemy and fired upon those who attempted to escape.

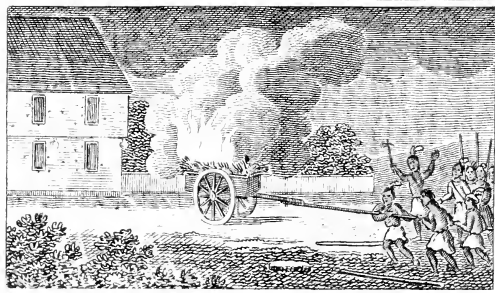
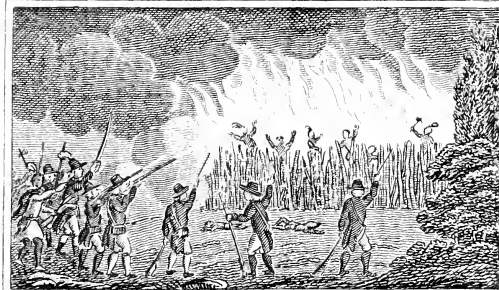
The work of destruction was complete ; of five or six hundred Pequots, only seven or eight escaped—the rest were either shot or perished in the flames. The loss of the English was only two killed and sixteen wounded.

(11.) *Elliot the Indian Missionary.*

Mr. John Elliot, a native of England, the indefatigable Missionary to the Indians, came over to New-England in 1632.

Moved with compassion, when beholding the wretchedness and degradation of the Indians, his first labours were to learn their language which was peculiarly difficult to acquire. He then with much labour translated the whole Bible into the Indian tongue. This Bible was printed in 1664 at Cambridge, and was the first Bible ever printed in America. He also translated several religious works and catechisms into their language. Having performed many wearisome journeys and endured many hardships and privations, this devoted and Apostolical Missionary closed his labours in 1690, aged eighty six years.

The ardour and zeal of Messrs. Elliot, Mayhew, and others were crowned with such success, that in 1660 there were ten towns of Indians in Massachusetts who were converted to the Christian Religion. In 1695 there were not less than three thousand adult Indian converts in the islands of Nantucket and Martha's Vineyard.







[12.] *King Philip's War.*

(ATTACK ON BROOKFIELD.)

In the year 1675, Philip, Sachem of the Wampanoags, and grand-son of Massasoit, began the most general and destructive war ever waged by the Indians upon the infant colonies. He resided at Mount Hope, in the present town of Bristol, in Rhode Island.

It is supposed that his object was the entire extinction of the colonists, who were now rapidly extending their settlements. The immediate cause of the war was this: Sausaman, an Indian Missionary, had made a discovery of Philip's plots to the English, for which Philip caused him to be murdered. The murderers were tried and executed by the English. This roused the anger of Philip, who immediately commenced hostilities, and by his influence drew into the war most of the Indian tribes in New England.

Philip fled to the Nipmucks, a tribe of Indians in that part of Massachusetts which is now called Worcester County, and persuaded them to assist him. The English sent a party also to this tribe to renew a former treaty, but Philip's influence prevailed, and this party was way-laid, and eight of their number killed. The remainder fled to Brookfield, pursued by the Indians into the town. Every

house in this place was burnt by the Indians except one into which the inhabitants had fled for refuge, and this was soon surrounded by their foes, and for two days they poured into its walls a shower of musket balls. Only one person, however, was killed. Brands and rags dipped in brimstone attached to the ends of long poles were used to fire the house; arrows of fire were shot against it, and a cart of tow and other combustibles, was with long poles pushed against the house and the savages stood ready to slaughter all who should attempt to escape.

At this awful and critical moment a sudden torrent of rain extinguished the kindling flames. Major Willard soon after came to their assistance—raised the siege, and after some slaughter of the enemy, compelled them to retreat.



### (13.) *Swamp Fight.*

Lest Philip should increase his power by an alliance with the Narragansett Indians, the English had made a friendly treaty with them in July, 1675. But notwithstanding this, in December of the same year it was discovered that they were secretly aiding Philip's party. This determined the English to undertake a winter expedition against them. For this object the colony of Mas-

sachusetts furnished five hundred and twenty-seven men, Plymouth one hundred and fifty-nine, and Connecticut three hundred: to all these were attached one hundred and fifty Mohegan Indians. After electing Josiah Winslow, governor of Plymouth colony, to be their commander, the whole party met at Pettyquamsquot. About sixteen miles from this place it was found that the Narragansetts had built a strong fort in the midst of a large swamp, upon a piece of dry land of about five or six acres. This fort was a circle of pallisadoes surrounded by a fence of trees which was about one rod thick.

On the 19th of December, 1675, at dawn of day, the English took up their march through a deep snow, and at 4 o'clock in the afternoon attacked the Indians in their fortress. The only entrance which appeared practicable, was over a log or tree which lay up 5 or 6 feet from the ground, and this opening was commanded by a sort of a block house in front. The Massachusetts men, led on by their captains, first rushed into the fort, but the enemy from the block house and other places opened so furious a fire upon them that they were obliged to retreat. Many men were killed in this assault, and among them Captains Johnson and Davenport. The whole army then made a united onset. The conflict was terrible, some of the bra-

vest captains fell and victory seemed doubtful. At this crisis, some of the Connecticut men ran to the opposite side of the fort where there were no palisades, they sprang in and opened a brisk and well directed fire upon the backs of the enemy. This decided the contest. The Indians were driven from the block house and from one covert to another until they were wholly destroyed or dispersed in the wilderness. As they retreated the soldiers set fire to their wigwams (about six hundred in number,) which were consumed by the flames. In this action it was computed that about seven hundred fighting Indians perished, and among them twenty of their chiefs. Three hundred more died from their wounds—To these numbers may be added many old men, women and children who had retired to this fort as a place of undoubted security.

“The burning of the wigwams, the shrieks of the women and children, the yelling of the warriors, exhibited a most horrible and affecting scene, so that it greatly moved some of the soldiers. They were in much doubt whether the burning of their enemies alive, could be consistent with humanity and the benevolent principles of the gospel.”

From this blow the Indians never recovered. The victory of the English though complete was dearly purchased; six of their captains and eighty

of their men were killed or mortally wounded, and 150 were wounded who afterwards recovered. About half of the loss in this bloody fight fell upon the Connecticut soldiers.



(14.) *Death of King Philip.*

The finishing stroke was given to the Indian power in New-England by the death of Philip, August 12th, 1676.

Failing in his attempts to rouse the *Mohawk* tribe to war with the English he returned to Mount Hope—the tide of war against him. The English had killed or captured his brother, councillors, and chief warriors, his wife and family, and he was obliged to flee from one lurking place to another from the pursuit of his foes. Firm and unbroken amidst all his misfortunes, he would listen to no proposals of peace. He even shot one of his own men for daring to suggest it.

Captain Church, who for his courage and enterprise in this war had acquired renown, received information that Philip was in a swamp near Mount Hope. To this place he marched immediately with a party of men whom he placed in ambush about the swamp, with orders not to move until daylight, that they might distinguish Philip. Cap-

tain Church confident of success, took Major Sanford by the hand, exclaiming, "It is scarcely possible that Philip should escape;" at this moment a bullet whistled over their heads, and a volley followed. Immediately Philip with his powder-horn and gun ran fiercely towards a spot where lay concealed a white man and a friendly Indian. The Englishman levelled his gun at Philip, but it missed fire. The Indian ally then fired. The bullet entered the heart of Philip, and he fell on his face in the mire of the swamp. By the order of Captain Church his body was drawn from the place where he fell,—beheaded and quartered. The Indian who executed this order, taking his hatchet, thus addressed the body of Philip:—"You have been one very great man—You have made a many a man afraid of you—but so big as you be I will chop you in pieces."

"Thus fell a brave chieftain who defended himself, and what he imagined to be the just rights of his countrymen to the last extremity."



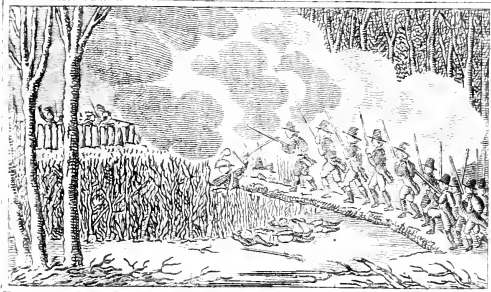
(15.) *The Regicides.*

Soon after the restoration of the monarchy in England, many of the judges who had condemned King Charles I. to death, were apprehended,



Rhode Island

13



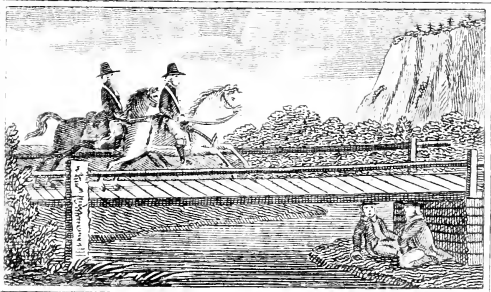
Rhode Island

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Connecticut

15





Thirty were condemned and ten were executed as traitors; two of them, Colonels Goffe and Whalley made their escape to New-England and arrived in Boston in July, 1660. They were gentlemen of worth, and were much esteemed by the colonists for their unfeigned piety. Their manners and appearance were dignified, commanding universal respect. Whalley had been a Lieutenant General, and Goffe a Major General, in Cromwell's army. An order for their apprehension from Charles II. reached New England soon after their arrival. The King's commissioners, eager to execute this order, compelled the judges to resort to the woods and caves and other hiding places; and they would undoubtedly have been taken had not the colonists secretly aided and assisted them in their concealments. Sometimes they found a refuge in a cave on a mountain near New-Haven, at others in cellars of the houses of their friends, and once they were secreted under the neck bridge in New-Haven, while their pursuers crossed the bridge on horseback. After many *hair breadth* escapes the pursuit was given over, and they were finally suffered to die a natural death in their exile.

(16.) *William Penn.*

The territory of Pennsylvania was granted to William Penn, from whom it derives its name. This grant was made by King Charles II. of England, in 1681, in consideration of service rendered to the crown by the father of Penn, who was an admiral in the English navy. In October, 1682, William Penn arrived in the Delaware, with his colony of Friends or Quakers. He purchased of the natives the land where he proposed to build his capital, which he called Philadelphia, or the *seat of brotherly love*. William Penn gave the Indians a satisfactory equivalent for all the lands which he obtained: and when he paid them, he administered such wholesome council and advice as proved salutary to the natives, and greatly endeared him to their affections. The treaty of peace which he concluded with them in 1682 lasted more than seventy years. He parcelled out his lands at moderate rents, gave free toleration to all religious sects, enacted mild and equitable laws, and thus invited a rapid settlement of the colony. The respect and affection which the natives had for Penn and those of his religious tenets was so great that it is related as a fact that in their wars with the whites, they never killed a *Quaker* knowing him to be such.

(17.) *Preservation of the Charter of Connecticut.*

The colonies were often alarmed at the arbitrary proceedings of the King and his council, who made many laws to abridge their freedom. One of their objects was to procure a repeal or surrender of all the patents granted to the colonies, and to place a governor general over the whole.

Sir Edmond Andross was appointed the first governor general over New-England, and arrived at Boston in December, 1686. From this place he wrote to the colony of Connecticut to resign their charter; but without success. In October, 1687, while the Assembly were in session, Governor Andross with his suite and sixty regular troops arrived in Hartford and demanded their charter. Extremely unwilling to surrender it, the Assembly purposely continued their debates until evening, when the charter was brought in and laid upon the table. By this time a concourse was assembled, and among them were men sufficiently bold to execute whatever might be deemed expedient. A cloth was thrown over the candles which extinguished the lights, and the charter was seized by Captain Wadsworth and secreted in a large hollow oak, which tree is still standing in the city of Hartford.—Sir Edmond was unable to obtain the charter, or to discover who had taken it; he,

however, assumed the government, and closed the records of the colony.



(18.) *Destruction of Schenectady, by the French and Indians.*

In the war between England and France in the year 1689, the French, who then possessed Canada, instigated the Indians to hostilities against the colonies. A detachment of between two and three hundred French and Indians were sent from Montreal against the frontiers of New-York. A march of more than twenty days in the depth of winter brought them to Schenectady, February 8th, 1690.

In this march they had been reduced to such straits that they had thoughts of surrendering themselves prisoners of war. But their scouts brought to them information that the inhabitants were in a state of unsuspecting security, and this determined them to attack them. On Saturday night about eleven o'clock, they entered the town through an unguarded point, and that they might invest every house at the same time, they divided into parties of six or seven men each. The inhabitants were in a profound sleep and unalarmed until the enemy had broken open their doors. In this dreadful surprise and consternation successful

(22.) *Braddock's Defeat.*

The encroachments of the French, and the erection by them of a chain of forts on the back settlements of the colonies, occasioned the British ministry to take measures to possess themselves of these forts, and to drive the French from the country.

In the spring of 1755, General Braddock arrived in Virginia with two regiments, and was soon joined by Colonel Washington (afterwards General Washington,) with a body of colonial troops: the whole force, two thousand men, took up their march for the French fort on the Ohio. General Braddock on the 9th July, with twelve hundred of his troops was within seven miles of Du Quesne, a French fortress which stood where Pittsburg is now built. Here Colonel Washington, who understood the mode of Indian warfare better than his general, requested him to reconnoitre with his Virginia riflemen. But General Braddock, who held the American officers in contempt, rejected Washington's council, and swelling with rage, replied with an oath, "*High times! High times! when a young buckskin can teach a British General how to fight.*" The troops advanced in heavy columns, and passing a narrow defile they fell into an ambush of French and Indians, who opened a deadly fire upon the English and American troops, who were

obliged to fire at random as they could not see their foe.

Braddock continued to urge on his men until he was mortally wounded, and about seven hundred men were killed, including many of his principal officers. Colonel Washington now covered the retreat of the regulars, and saved them from entire destruction



(23.) *Stamp Act.*

The British Parliament in the year 1765, for the purpose of raising a revenue from the colonies, passed the famous *stamp act*: which ordained that all instruments of writing, as contracts, deeds, notes, &c. should not be valid, unless executed on stamped paper, on which a duty should be paid. This alarmed the colonies and awakened their indignation. They determined to resist the execution of the law. The 1st November, 1765, was the day on which this act was to take effect. "In Boston the bells tolled, the shops were shut, effigies of the royalists were carried about in derision and torn in pieces. At Portsmouth, the bells tolled, a coffin was made, on the lid was inscribed "Liberty, aged 145," and with unbraced drums and minute guns a procession followed it to the grave. At the close

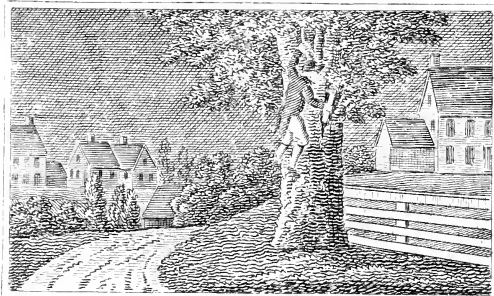
Pennsylvania

16



Connecticut

17



New York

18







resistance was impossible, and this wretched people were aroused from their midnight slumbers to endure the perpetration of savage and inhuman barbarities, too shocking here to record. Sixty of the inhabitants were killed and twenty taken off captives. To crown their work the enemy set on fire the village, killed most of the cattle and the horses, and those which were spared they drove off laden with plunder. Those of the people who escaped, fled almost naked through a deep snow, and in a heavy storm twenty-five of whom lost the use of their limbs by the severe frost.



(19.) *Salem Witchcraft.*

The year 1692 is memorable in New England for the convulsion produced in Salem and its vicinity by the supposed prevalence of *Witchcraft*. Many were supposed to be *be-witched*, and would complain of being bitten, pinched, pricked with pins, &c.; some declared that they beheld a spectral representation of the person who they said was the cause of their affliction. Some were struck dumb, others had their limbs distorted in a shocking manner, sometimes running on their hands and feet, creeping through holes and under chairs, ta-

bles, &c.; barking like a dog, with other actions equally strange and unaccountable. Upon the accusation and testimony of persons thus afflicted, many were imprisoned, and nineteen were executed for *practising witchcraft*, most of whom died professing their innocence. The evil became alarming, but the magistrates finally acquitted those who were accused and the menacing storm blew over to the great joy of the inhabitants.

At this period a belief in witchcraft was not confined to New-England. Sir Matthew Hale, and many eminent men in England were far from considering it a contemptible superstition.



### (20.) *Great Snow Storm.*

In February 1717, fell the greatest snow ever known in this country or perhaps in any other. So deep was the snow that the people stepped out of their chamber-windows on snow shoes; with this fall of snow there was a terrible tempest. Eleven hundred sheep, the property of one man, were found dead; one flock of a hundred on Fishers' Island were found buried sixteen feet in the snow, two of them only were alive, they having subsisted on the wool of their companions twenty-eight days after the storm.

(21.) *Invasion of Georgia.*

In 1742, two years after the declaration of war by England against Spain, the Spaniards attacked Georgia. A Spanish armament, consisting of thirty-two sail, with three thousand men, under command of Don Manuel de Monteano, sailed from St. Augustine, and arrived in the river Altamaha. The expedition, although fitted out at great expense, failed of accomplishing its object.

General Oglethorpe was at this time at fort Simons. Finding himself unable to retain possession of it, having but about seven hundred men, he spiked his cannon, and, destroying his military stores, retreated to his head-quarters at Frederica.

On the first prospect of an invasion, General Oglethorpe had applied to the governor of South Carolina for assistance, but the Carolinians, fearing for the safety of their own territory, and not approving of general Oglethorpe's management in his late expedition against St. Augustine, declined furnishing troops, but voted supplies.

In this state of danger and perplexity, the general resorted to stratagem. A French soldier belonging to his army deserted to the enemy. Fearing the consequences of their learning his weakness, he devised a plan by which to destroy the credit of any information that the deserter might give.

With this view, he wrote a letter to the French deserter in the Spanish camp, addressing him as if he were a spy of the English. This letter he bribed a Spanish captive to deliver, in which he directed the deserter to state to the Spaniards, that he was in a weak and defenceless condition, and to urge them on to an attack.

Should he not be able, however, to persuade them to this, he wished him to induce them to continue three days longer at their quarters, in which time he expected two thousand men, and six British men of war, from Carolina. The above letter, as was intended, was delivered to the Spanish general, instead of the deserter, who immediately put the latter in irons.

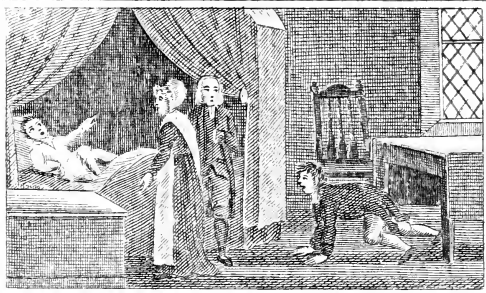
A council of war was called, and while deliberating upon the measures which should be taken, three supply ships, which had been voted by Carolina, appeared in sight. Imagining these to be the men of war alluded to in the letter, the Spaniards, in great haste, fired the fort, and embarked, leaving behind them several cannon, and a quantity of provisions. By this artful, but unjustifiable expedient, the country was relieved of its invaders, and Georgia, and probably a great part of South Carolina, was saved from ruin.

*Goodrich's History of the United States.*



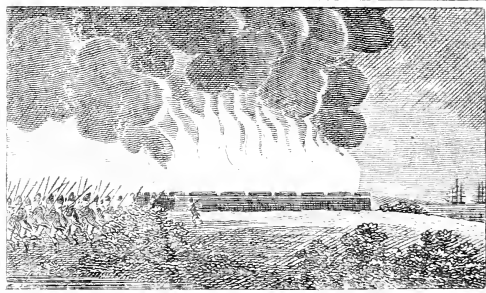
Massachusetts

19



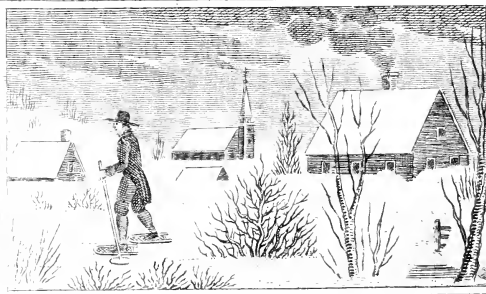
Georgia

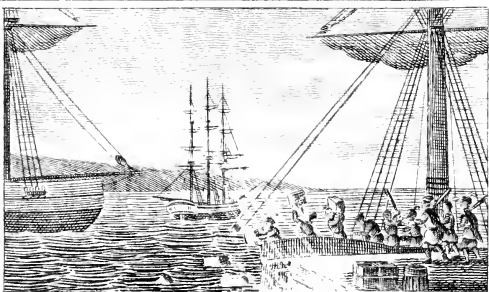
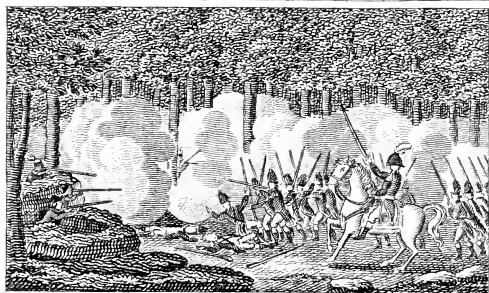
21



United States

2









of an oration the coffin was taken up, signs of life appeared in the corpse, Liberty revived, was substituted, the bells struck a cheerful key, joy sparkled in every countenance."

Similar proceedings occurred in other parts of the colonies, and the obnoxious act was shortly after repealed.



(24.) *Destruction of Tea in Boston.*

The British ministry still persisting in their right, to tax the colonies, had for this purpose given permission to the East India Company to ship a large quantity of Teas to America, charged with duty. The Americans fixed in their opposition to the principal of taxation in any shape, opposed the landing of the tea. In New-York and in Philadelphia, the cargoes sent out were returned without being entered at the Custom Houses. In Boston, the tea being consigned to the Royal Governor (Hutchinson) the populace disguised in the dress of Indians, went on board of the tea ships and threw about 340 chests into the sea. Intelligence of this transaction reached the British ministry, and in 1774, they passed an act to restrain all intercourse by water, with the town of Boston, by closing the

port. They also removed the government and public offices to Salem.



(25.) *Battle of Lexington.*

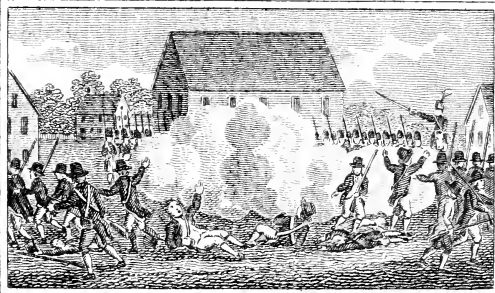
Determined to reduce the rebellious colonies to submission, the British ministry transported a force of 10,000 men, who were stationed at Boston.

On the night of the 18th of April, 1775, Gen. Gage, the King's governor of Massachusetts, detached a body of 800 men, with orders to march to Concord, and destroy the military stores collected by the Americans at that place. Their movements were discovered, and the country alarmed. Early in the morning, about 170 of the Lexington militia had assembled on the green. Major Pitcairn who commanded the detachment of British troops, rode up to the militia, and addressing them as *rebels* ordered them to disperse. Not being obeyed, Pitcairn discharged his pistol, and ordered his men to fire. Eight of the Americans were killed and several wounded. The British proceeded to Concord, destroyed the stores, and returned to Boston, closely followed by the exasperated Americans, who from behind fences and walls, fired upon their rear. Had not the British had a rein-



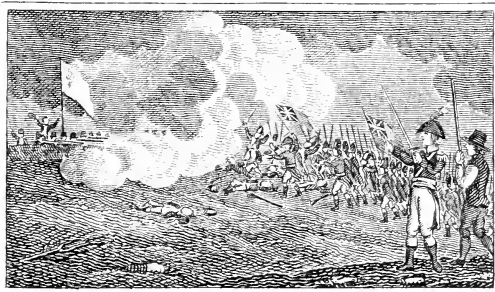
Massachusetts

25



Massachusetts

26



Massachusetts

27



forcement at Lexington, it is doubtful whether any of them had reached Boston.

Thus began the contest which dismembered the British empire, and ended in the establishment of the independence of our country.



(26.) *Battle of Bunker's Hill.*

On the evening of June 16, 1775, about 1000 militia, mostly from Massachusetts and Connecticut, and one artillery company were detached from the American camp, to fortify *Bunker Hill*, an eminence near the town of Boston. At this hill they halted, but concluded to advance to an adjacent height, called Breed's Hill, which was nearer to the enemy, and thought to be a more commanding position.

Here about midnight, they silently began throwing up a redoubt, which they completed about noon, the next day. The British unable by their cannonades to dislodge the Americans from their stronghold, between two and three o'clock, advanced in two columns for the attack. The Americans reserved their fire while the enemy were advancing, until they were sufficiently near to make their aim sure. When within about eight rods of the breastwork, a shower of bullets were poured in upon them,

and repeated with such effect, that hundreds of the assailants fell, and the remainder retreated in dismay. The fire from the British ships and batteries which had been incessant, was now renewed, with increased vigour; and the British officers rallied their men and again advanced. The fire of the Americans was again reserved, for a still nearer approach,—and again they let fly a shower of balls upon the foe, who completely routed, fled a second time to the banks of the river. The British officers were unable to rally their men for a third attack, one third of their comrades had fallen, and it was not until a reinforcement of 1000 men with artillery had joined them from Boston, that they could be persuaded to make a third assault. With these fresh troops, they entered the redoubt with fixed bayonets, and after much slaughter on both sides, the American militia being nearly exhausted, retreated to Bunker Hill, when some fresh militia coming up covered their retreat, and the remnant of this brave band crossed Charlestown neck, about 7 o'clock. Among the dead, the Americans had to lament the brave and patriotic Warren—he was shot in the head by a musket ball, sometime after the word was given to retreat, and immediately expired.\*

\* For a more minute account of the battle of *Bunker Hill*, see the appendix. A.

(27.) *Washington Commander in Chief of the American Army.*

The first general congress consisted of delegates from twelve colonies, and convened at Philadelphia on the 5th of Sept. 1774. They published a declaration of their rights, sent a petition to the king, and addresses to the British people. In May, 1775, Congress, agreeable to adjournment, convened again. Hostilities having been commenced, it was a point of vital importance to the American cause, to select a proper person for commander in chief of the American forces.

On the 15th of June of this year, George Washington, a delegate from Virginia, was by the unanimous voice of Congress, appointed to this important station. Soon after his appointment, Washington repaired to the army who were besieging Boston, and was received with profound respect and joyful acclamation.

The American army had so closely besieged Boston, that the British evacuated the town on the 17th of March, 1776, taking with them about 1500 of the inhabitants, who for their adherence to the British cause, feared the resentment of their countrymen. Gen. Washington immediately entered Boston.

(28.) *Declaration of Independence.*

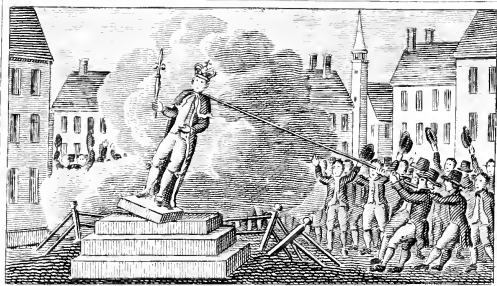
[SCENE AT NEW-YORK.]

The British government viewing the American people as rebels, had placed them out of their protection, employed foreign mercenaries to assist in subduing them, and by numerous oppressive acts, had provoked them to broach the subject of their independence of the British crown. Accordingly the subject was brought before Congress, but some of the members of that body being absent they postponed the consideration of it to the 1st of July; when they met and appointed Thomas Jefferson, John Adams, Benj. Franklin, Roger Sherman, and Philip Livingston, to frame the declaration of Independence. Their report (which was drafted by Mr. Jefferson,) was read and accepted, and Congress declared the United States *free and independent* July 4, 1776. "This declaration was received by the people, with transports of joy and public rejoicings in various parts of the union. In New-York, the statue of George III was taken down and the lead of which it was composed was converted into musket balls."

(29.) *Battle of Trenton.*

The summer and fall of 1776, was the most gloomy period of the American revolution. Gen.







Washington had been obliged to retreat from Long Island to New-York, thence over the Hudson to New Jersey, and through New Jersey to Pennsylvania, vigorously pursued by an enemy, flushed with a series of success. The retreat through New Jersey, was attended with circumstances of a painful and trying nature. Washington's army which had consisted of 30,000 men, was now diminished to scarcely 3,000 and these were without supplies, without pay, and many of them without shoes or comfortable clothing. Their footsteps were stained with their blood, as they fled before the enemy. The affairs of the Americans, seemed in such a desperate condition, that those who had been the most confident of success, began desparingly to give up all as lost. Many Americans joined the British and took protections from them. In this season of general despondency, the American Congress, recommended to each of the states, to observe "a day of solemn fasting and humiliation before God."

Gen. Washington saw the necessity of making a desperate effort for the salvation of his country. On the night of the 25th of December, 1776, the American army recrossed the Delaware, which was filled with pieces of floating ice, and marched to attack a division of Hessians who had advanced to Trenton. The sun had just risen, as the tents of the enemy appeared in sight. No time was to be

lost—Washington rising on his stirrups, waved his sword towards the hostile army, and exclaimed, “*There, my brave friends, are the enemies of your country! and now all I have to ask of you is to remember what you are about to fight for! March!!*”

The troops animated by their commander, pressed on to the charge—the Hessians were taken by surprise, and before they could *form* the contest was decided: about 1000 were taken prisoners, and 40 killed, among whom was their commander (a German officer) Col. Rahl.



(30.) *Murder of Miss McCrea.*

Previous to the American revolution, there resided near fort Edward an accomplished young man named Jones, and a young lady by the name of McCrea, between whom a strong attachment subsisted. Upon the breaking out of war Mr. Jones who favoured the royalists, fled into Canada. Thence he accompanied the expedition of Burgoyne into the States. When the British army were within about three miles of fort Edward, Mr. Jones found means secretly to inform Miss McCrea of his approach: he entreated her not to leave the place, and informed her that as soon as the fort had

surrendered he would seek an asylum where they might peaceably consummate the nuptial ceremony. Confiding in her lover Miss McCrea heroically refused to follow the flying villagers. The tears and intreaties of her parents and friends availed nothing. Mr. Jones anxious to possess his intended bride, despatched a party of Indians to convey her to the British army, and offered to reward them for their service with a barrel of rum. The Indians brought a letter from her lover, and also his horse to convey Miss McCrea; she scrupled not to place herself under their protection, and accordingly set out for the British camp. When about half way a second party of Indians hearing of the captivating offer made by Mr. Jones, determined to avail themselves of the reward. A bloody strife ensued, in which some of the Indians were killed, when the chief of the first party to decide the contest, with his tomahawk knocked the lady from her horse, tore off her scalp and bore it as a trophy to her anxious and impatient lover! Humanity revolted at the atrocity of the deed! The tale tingled in the ears of the American people, exasperated them against the British and their savage allies, and probably accelerated the downfall of Burgoyne.

(31.) *Capture of General Burgoyne.*

(AT SARATOGA.)

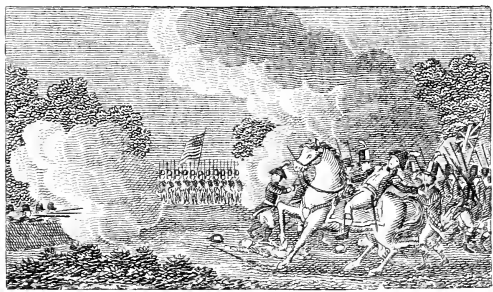
In 1777, General Burgoyne with an army of seven thousand chosen men and a large body of Indians, invaded the northern states from Canada, with a view to intercept all communication between the northern and southern states.

In June he crossed the lake and took possession of Ticonderoga, a fortress on the southern shores of lake Champlain, which had been abandoned by the Americans. General Burgoyne crossed the Hudson on the 13th and 14th of September, with a view to penetrate to Albany, but at Saratoga he was held in check by the American army under General Gates, who was daily reinforced by militia from all parts of New-England. After two severe actions General Burgoyne was inclosed in a narrow pass, with the Hudson on one side, a body of Americans in his rear—his boats he had ordered to be burnt, and he could not retreat while an army of *thirteen thousand* men opposed him in front, and he was forced to surrender his whole army of five thousand and seven hundred effective men on the 17th October, 1777.\*

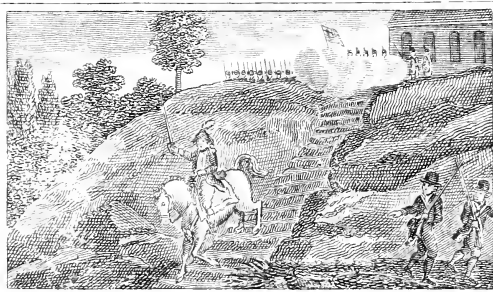
\*The particulars of this engagement as related by General Wilkinson, see the Appendix B.



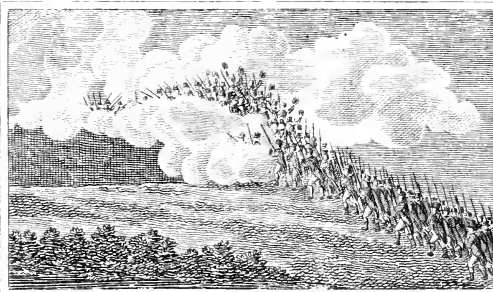
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(32.) *General Putnam's escape at Horseneck.*

About the middle of the winter of 1778, General Putnam, a bold and veteran officer, was on a visit to his outpost at Horseneck, where he found Tryon the British Governor advancing upon that place with a corps of fifteen hundred men. To oppose this force General Putnam had only a force of one hundred and fifty men with two iron field pieces, without horses or dragropes. Having planted his cannon on an eminence, he fired until the enemy's horse (supported by infantry) were about to charge; he then ordered his men to shelter themselves in a neighbouring swamp inaccessible to the enemy's cavalry—and putting spurs to his horse, he plunged down a precipice so steep that about one hundred stone steps or stairs had been constructed for the accommodation of foot passengers. The British dragoons who were but a sword's length from him, not daring to follow, stopped, and before they could gain the valley Putnam was far beyond their reach.

(33.) *Storming of Stony Point.*

The reduction of this place, July 15, 1779, was one of the most bold enterprises which occurred in

the Revolutionary war. (Stoney point is 40 miles north of New-York, on the Hudson.)

“ At this time Stoney Point was in the condition of a real fortress, it was furnished with a select garrison of more than 600 men, and had stores in abundance, and defensive preparations which were formidable. Fortified as it was, Gen. Washington ventured an attempt to reduce it. The enterprise was committed to Gen. Wayne, who with a strong detachment of active infantry, set out towards the place at noon. His march of fourteen miles over high mountains, through deep morasses, and difficult defiles, was accomplished by eight o'clock in the evening.

“ At the distance of a mile from the point, Gen. Wayne halted and formed his men into two columns, putting himself at the head of the right. Both columns were directed to march in order and silence, with unloaded muskets and fixed bayonets. At midnight they arrived under the walls of the fort.\*

“ An unexpected obstacle now presented itself: the deep morass which covered the works, was at this time overflowed by the tide. The English opened a tremendous fire of musketry and of cannon loaded with grape shot : but neither the inundated morass, nor a double palisade, nor the storm of fire

\* Goodrich's United States.

that poured upon them, could arrest the impetuosity of the Americans ; they opened their way with the bayonet, prostrated whatever opposed them, scaled the fort, and the two columns met in the centre of the works. The English lost upwards of 600 men in killed and prisoners. The conquerors abstained from pillage, and from all disorder ; a conduct the more worthy as they had still present in mind, the ravages and butcheries which their enemies had so recently committed in Virginia and Connecticut. Humanity imparted new effulgence to the victory which valour had attained."†



(34.) *Capture of Andre.*

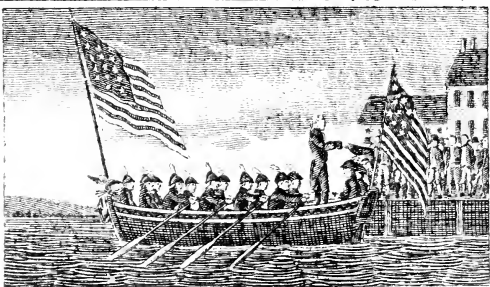
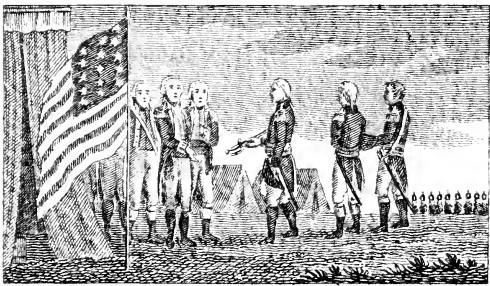
In the year 1780, a plot fraught with much danger to the American cause, was happily discovered. This plot originated with Arnold, a general in the American army, who by his extravagance and overbearing behaviour, had brought upon himself a reprimand from the American Congress. Of a temper too impetuous to bear reproof, Arnold bent on revenge, entered into a negotiation through Major John Andre, adjutant general in the British army,

† Botta's Revolution.

to deliver up to the enemy the important post of West Point, of which Arnold had the command.

Andre proceeded in disguise to West Point, drew a plan of the fortress, concerted with Arnold, and agreed upon the manner and time of attack. Having obtained a passport, and assumed the name of Anderson, Andre set out on his return to New York by land. He passed all the outposts of the American army without suspicion. Supposing himself now out of danger, he pressed forward elated with the prospect of the speedy execution of a plot which was to give the finishing blow to liberty in America.

But, mark the hand of Providence,—about 30 miles from New-York, as Andre was entering a village called Tarry Town, three militia men, who happened that way, *John Paulding, David Williams, and Isaac Van Wert*, seized the bridle of his horse, and accosted him with “Where are you bound?” Andre supposing that they were of the British, did not immediately show his passport, but waving their question, asked them, “*where they belonged to?*” they replied “*to below,*” (referring to the course of the river, and implying that they were of the British party.) “*And so do I,*” said Andre, (confirmed in his mistake by this stratagem,) at the same time informed them that he was a British officer, on urgent business, and must not be detained.





"*You belong to our enemies,*" exclaimed the militia men, "*and we arrest you.*" Andre struck with astonishment, presented his passport, but this after what had passed, only rendered his case the more suspicious. He then offered them a purse of gold, his horse, and watch, besides a large reward from the British government, if they would but liberate him. But these soldiers though poor and obscure, were not to be bribed. They searched him and found concealed in his boot, papers which evidenced his guilt, and they immediately conducted him to Col. Jameson, their commanding officer.

Andre was tried by a board of general officers of the American army, and executed as a spy, at Tappan, N. Y. October 2. He was a young officer, high minded, brave, accomplished, and humane. He suffered with fortitude, and his fate excited the universal sympathy of all parties.



### (35.) *Surrender of Cornwallis.*

The 19th of October, 1781, was rendered memorable by the surrender of the British army consisting of 7000 men under Cornwallis at Yorktown, Va. This joyful event decided the Revolutionary contest, and laid the foundation for a general peace. About the last of August, Count de Grasse with a

French fleet arrived in the Chesapeake and blocked up the British troops who had fortified themselves at Yorktown.

Previous to this, the American and French troops under Gen. Washington had moved to the southward; and as soon as he heard of the arrival of the French fleet, made rapid marches to the head of Elk river, where embarking, the troops soon arrived at Yorktown. A close siege was now commenced, and carried on with such ardour and determination by the American and French troops, that Cornwallis was forced to surrender.

The spectacle of the surrender was impressive and affecting, The road through which the captive army marched was lined with spectators. On one side, Gen. Washington with the American staff took their station, on the opposite side was the count de Rochambeau with the French staff.

“The captive army approached moving slowly in column with grace and precision. Universal silence was observed amidst the vast concourse, and the utmost decency prevailed; exhibiting in demeanour an awful sense of the vicissitudes of human life, mingled with commiseration for the unhappy.”

Lord Cornwallis, unable to endure the humiliation of marching at the head of his troops, appointed Gen. O'Hara his representative, who delivered



up the sword of Cornwallis to the American Commander in Chief.



(36.) *General Washington taking leave of the Army.*

The storm of the revolution had subsided, the definitive treaty was signed on the 30th of September, 1783, and the 3d of November was fixed on by Congress for disbanding the United States' Army: on the day preceding General Washington gave an affectionate farewell to the soldiers who during "*the times that tried men's souls*," had fought by his side. "Being now," he said in his address to the army, "to conclude these my last public orders, to take my ultimate leave in a short time of the military character, and to bid a final adieu to the armies I have so long had the honour to command, I can only again offer in your behalf, my recommendations to our grateful country and my prayer to the God of armies—May ample justice be done you here and may the choicest favour both here and hereafter, attend those who under the divine auspices, have secured innumerable blessings for others! With these wishes and this benediction the commander in chief is about to retire from service. The curtain of separation will soon be drawn, and the military scene will be closed forever."

The officers of the army assembled at New-York—Washington was there also, and at parting thus addressed them: “With a heart full of love and gratitude, I now take my leave of you. I most devoutly wish that your latter days may be as prosperous and happy as your former ones have been glorious and honourable.” Taking each by the hand, he bade them farewell. They then accompanied him to the shore of the Hudson where he was received in a barge magnificently decorated and manned with thirteen sea captains—and waving his hat, while the tears started from his eyes, he bade a silent adieu to the companions of his glory.



(37.) *Inauguration of Washington.*

(THE FIRST PRESIDENT.)

The American people having established their independence, they next proceeded to form a Constitution of government. Accordingly delegates from the several states were appointed to meet in convention for the purpose of framing a Constitution. This body met at Philadelphia in 1787 and formed a Constitution which was finally adopted by all the states.

According to the Constitution, the several states elected their delegates to the Congress, and by an

unanimous vote, General Washington was elected first President.

On the 30th of April, 1789, George Washington was inaugurated President of the United States. This ceremony was performed in the open gallery of the Federal Hall in the city of New-York, and the oath was administered by Chancellor Livingston in the view of a countless multitude of spectators.

Many circumstances concurred to render this scene unusually solemn and interesting—the presence of the Father of his country—the impressions of gratitude for his past services—the vast concourse of spectators—the devout fervency with which the oath was repeated—The reverential manner in which he bowed to kiss the sacred volume—His elevation to this high station by the *unanimous voice of enlightened freemen*.

“It seemed from the number of witnesses,” said a spectator, “to be a solemn appeal to heaven and earth at once. Upon the subject of this great and good man I may perhaps be an enthusiast, but I confess I was under an awful and religious persuasion that the gracious ruler of the universe was looking down at that moment with peculiar complacency on an act, which to a part of his creatures was so very important. Under this impression

when the Chancellor pronounced in a feeling manner "LONG LIVE GEORGE WASHINGTON," my sensibility was wound up to such a pitch that I could do no more than to wave my hat with the rest, without the power of joining in the repeated acclamations that rent the air."

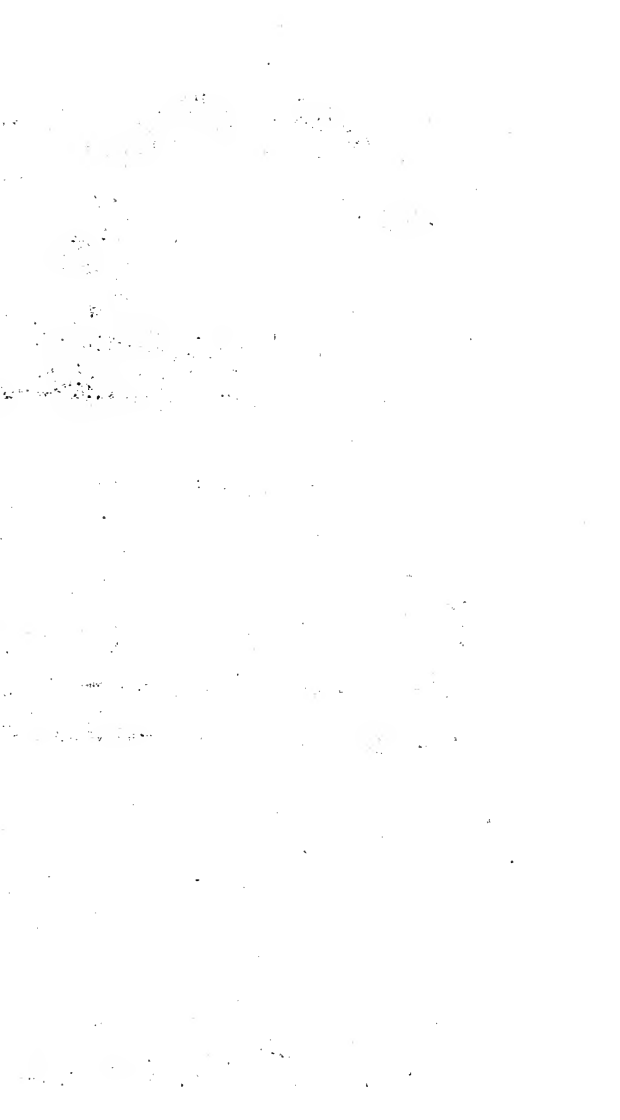


(38.) *Doctor Franklin's experiments in Electricity.*

The utility of Lightning rods was first suggested by Doctor Franklin, and confirmed by his experiments in Philadelphia in 1752.

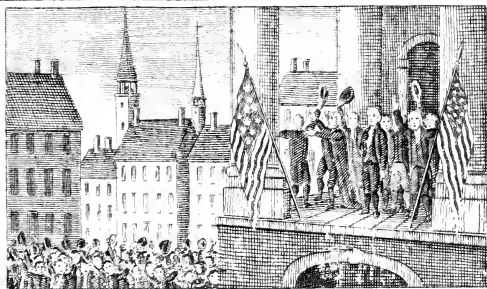
At this time the subject of Electricity was a new science and the philosophers of Europe were busy with it: Franklin to their no small mortification, advanced a theory which he established by the following experiment:

To the upright stick of a kite he attached an iron point, the line of his kite was hemp except the end which he held, this was of silk: to the end of the hemp line he affixed a key—a thunder shower coming up he raised his kite near the cloud, and shortly perceived the effects of the electric fluid which he drew off in sparks, charged a phial with it, and performed such experiments as are now usually performed with electrical machines.



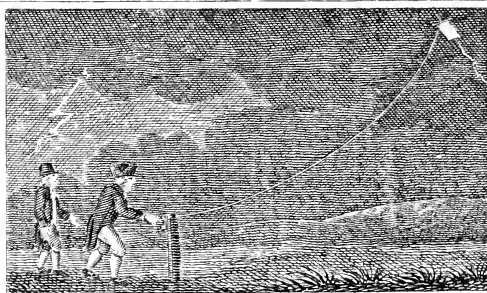
37

New-York



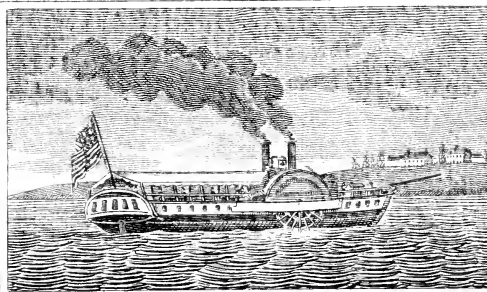
38

Pennsylvania



39

United States



(39.) *Steam Boats.*

The first successful application of *steam* for the purpose of propelling boats was accomplished by *Robert Fulton*, a native of the state of Pennsylvania.

Mr. Fulton's inventive genius displayed itself at an early age. It seems that as early as the year 1793 he had conceived the idea of propelling vessels by steam, and he speaks in some of his writings with great confidence of its practicability.

After a number of years residence in Europe, and making a variety of experiments both in that country and in this, his labours were finally crowned with success.

In the spring of 1807, the first steam boat built in this country was launched from a ship yard in New-York on the East River. The engine which he procured from England was put on board of the boat in August, was completed, and was moved by her machinery to the Jersey shore. This boat which was called the *Clermont*, soon after sailed for Albany which voyage she accomplished, going at the rate of about five miles an hour ; she afterwards became a regular passage boat between New-York and Albany. From the time that this boat was put in motion, this noble invention has been rapidly extended ; till it is now used in every part of the civilized world.

(40.) *Expedition of Lewis and Clark.*

[TO THE PACIFIC OCEAN.]

In the year 1803, the extensive territory of Louisiana was ceded by the government of France to the United States for fifteen millions of dollars.

Upon the acquisition of this new territory, the attention of the government of the United States directed towards exploring the country. Captains Lewis and Clarke with a party of twenty-five men who were enlisted for the purpose, were sent on this expedition. With three boats, they set forth from the mouth of Wood river, near St. Louis on the 14th day of May, 1804. Following the course of the Missouri, they reached the Mandan villages, where they built a kind of Fort and encamped for the winter. In April they left their encampment, and with two large boats and six small canoes, proceeded on their voyage. On the 12th of August, 1805 they penetrated as far as the source of the Missouri—the longest river in the known world; (if we add its distance after it unites with the Mississippi to the ocean,) it being almost 4500 miles long. After following its course at the foot of the mountain, its width became contracted to that of a narrow brook. Travelling about four miles, they reached a small gap formed by high mountains which recede on each side, leaving room



for an Indian road. From the foot of one of the lowest of these mountains which rises with an ascent of about half a mile, issues the remotest waters of the Missouri. After tarrying awhile at this interesting spot, they pursued the Indian path through the interval of hills, and arrived at the top of a ridge, from whence they saw high mountains partially covered with snow still to the west. The ridge on which they stood formed the dividing line between the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans. They then followed the descent of the ridge, and at the distance of three quarters of a mile, reached a bold creek of clear cold water running to the westward. They stopped to taste for the first time, the waters of the *Columbia*. Unable to proceed further in canoes they purchased horses of the natives with which they crossed the Rocky Mountains. In performing this journey they were reduced to the necessity of killing some of their horses for food. After passing several ranges of steep and rugged mountains they descended the Columbia river, and arrived at its mouth at the Pacific Ocean, Nov. 14, 1805. Near this place they encamped for the winter, and on the 23d of March following, set out for the United States, and after many hardships and privations, arrived at St. Louis, Sept. 23, 1806. The route which the party took from St. Louis to the Pacific

Ocean, was a distance of four thousand one hundred and thirty-four miles. In returning, they passed upon a better and more direct route, shortening the distance to three thousand five hundred and fifty-five miles.



### *Second War with Great Britain.*

June 18, 1812, a bill declaring War against Great Britain having passed both houses of Congress, received the signature of President Madison. To go into a history of the causes of this war, its justice, expediency or in expediency, would exceed the intended limits of these brief sketches. A concise view of some of the principal events only will be attempted. The American people were not united in this war, and during its continuance a bitter animosity existed between the two political parties that divided the country. One considered the war unjust in its operation, and if just at all, extremely *inexpedient at that time*. The other, that it was both just and expedient, and indispensable to the maintenance of *national honour*.

(41.) *Battle of Lake Erie.*

The American fleet consisted of nine vessels carrying fifty-four guns commanded by Commodore Perry a young officer. The British fleet of six vessels and sixty-three guns, under Commodore Barclay, an old and experienced officer who had served under Nelson. The line of battle was formed at 11 o'clock. (Sept. 10, 1813.) At fifteen minutes before 12, the enemy's flag ship, "Queen Charlotte" opened a furious fire upon the "Lawrence," the flag ship of Com. Perry. The wind being light, the rest of the squadron were unable to come to his assistance, and he was compelled for two hours to sustain the fire of two of the enemy's ships, each of equal force. By this time the Lawrence had become unmanageable, every gun was dismounted, her crew except four or five were all killed or wounded.

In this desperate condition, Commodore Perry with great presence of mind formed the bold design to shift his flag, and leaped into an open boat, waving his sword he passed unhurt through a shower of balls to the Niagara of twenty guns. At this critical moment the wind increased, and Perry bore down upon the enemy, passing the "Detroit," "Queen Charlotte," and "Lady Provost" on one side, and the "Chippewa" and "Little Belt" on the

other, into each of which while passing he poured a broadside. He then engaged the "Lady Provost," which received so heavy a fire that the men ran below. The remainder of the American squadron now one after another came up. After a contest of three hours the American fleet gained a complete victory, and captured every vessel of the enemy. Commodore Perry announced this victory in the following laconic style: "*We have met the enemy, and they are ours!*"

The Americans lost in this action twenty-seven killed and ninety-six wounded. The British had about two hundred killed and wounded—the Americans took six hundred prisoners, which exceeded the whole number of Americans engaged in the action.

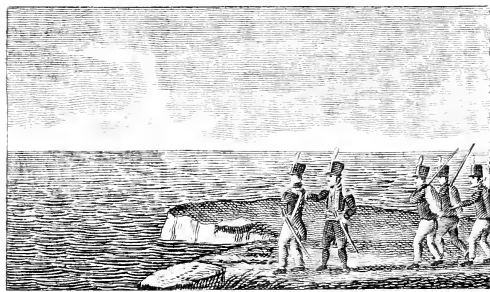


#### (42.) *Death of Tecumseh.*

On the 5th of October a battle was fought between the American army under General Harrison and the British under General Proctor. In this action the British were defeated, and Detroit fell into the hands of the Americans. The British were assisted by a body of twelve or fifteen hundred Indian warriors, led on by Tecumseh, a celebrated Indian warrior. The onset was begun with great

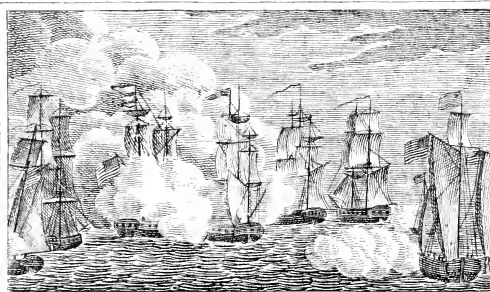
Oregon Territory

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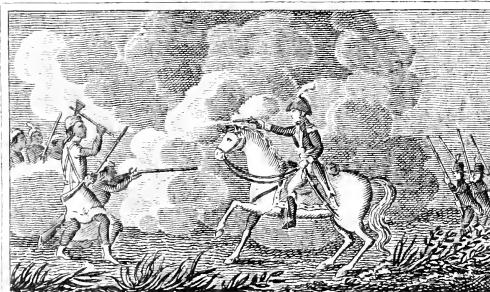
Lake Erie

41



U. Canada

42





fury by Tecumseh on the left, and met by Col. Johnson of Kentucky. The determined and terrible voice of Tecumseh was heard encouraging his men, who gathered about him, and fought with desperate courage. Col. Johnson rushed to the spot, when a hundred rifles were levelled at him; his dress and accoutrements were pierced by the bullets, his horse fell, and himself received a number of wounds. At the instant his horse was about to fall, Col. Johnson was discovered by Tecumseh, who sprang forward with his Tomahawk—for a moment he hesitated—that moment was his last. Col. Johnson aimed a pistol at Tecumseh's breast, and both almost at the same instant fell. Col. Johnson's men now rushed forward, and the Indians, hearing no longer the voice of their chief, soon after fled.

Since the year 1790, Tecumseh had been in almost every engagement with the whites—a determined enemy to the attempts to civilize his countrymen, and for years had endeavoured to unite the tribes in opposition to the progress of the whites to the West.

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(43) *Burning of Washington City.*

In August 1814, a body of about 6000 British troops, commanded by Gen. Ross, landed at Bene-

dict, on the Pautuxet, 47 miles from Washington. He met with little opposition on his march, until within about six miles of Washington, at Bladensburgh. Here Gen. Winder with the American forces composed mostly of militia hastily collected, opposed them. The Americans, however, fled at the beginning of the contest. Com. Barney with about 400 men made a brave resistance, but the enemy superior in numbers, compelled him to surrender.

Leaving Bladensburgh, Gen. Ross went to Washington, where he arrived in the evening of the 23d August, about 8 o'clock with 700 men, having left the main body about a mile and a half from the Capitol. Immediately on his arrival, this modern Goth issued orders to set on fire the public buildings.

The Capitol and the President's house, two noble buildings, were burnt; the valuable libraries in the Capitol were also destroyed. The great Bridge across the Potomac—a splendid Hotel and many other private buildings.

On the 25th they retired by rapid marches and regained their shipping, having lost about 1000 men in this expedition.



(44) *Battle on Lake Champlain.*

In September 1814, an army of 14,000 men under the command of Sir George Prevost, Governor General of Canada, and a fleet on Lake Champlain under Commodore Downie, carrying 95 guns, and 1050 men approached Plattsburg.

The American fleet, commanded by Commodore Macdonough, carried but 86 guns, and 826 men. While lying off Plattsburgh, on the 11th of September the British fleet bore down upon them in order of battle.

Ordering his vessels to be cleared for action, Commodore Macdonough gallantly received the enemy. The engagement was exceedingly obstinate; the enemy fought bravely; but the superiority of the American gunnery prevailed, they fired much oftener than their enemies. After an engagement of two hours and twenty minutes the British ships were silenced, and one frigate, one brig, and two sloops of war, fell into the hands of the Americans. Several British gallies were sunk, and a few others escaped. The Americans lost 52 killed, and 58 wounded. The loss of the British was 84 killed, and 110 wounded,

Sir Geo. Prevost, who commanded the land forces, commenced an attack upon the American works at Plattsburgh, at the same time that the

fleets were engaged, but was compelled to retire by the Americans under Gen. Macomb with the loss of 2500 men.



(45) *Gen. Jackson's Victory at New-Orleans.*

In the month of Dec. 1814, fifteen thousand British troops under Sir Edward Packenham were landed for the attack of New-Orleans. The defence of this place was entrusted to Gen. Andrew Jackson, whose force was about 6000 men, chiefly raw militia. Several slight skirmishes occurred before the enemy arrived before the city—during this time Gen. Jackson was employed in making preparation for his defence. His front was a straight line of 1000 yards, defended by upwards of three thousand Infantry and Artillerists. The ditch contained five feet of water, and his front, from having been flooded by opening the levees, and by frequent rains, was rendered slippery and muddy. Eight distinct batteries were judiciously disposed, mounting in all 12 guns of different calibres. On the opposite side of the river was a strong battery of fifteen guns.

On the 8th of January, Gen. Packenham with upwards of 12,000 men, deliberately advanced in solid columns to the attack over an even plain, in

front of the American intrenchments, his men carrying, besides their muskets, facines and ladders. Entire silence prevailed through the American lines until the British were within reach of their batteries, when a destructive cannonade was opened; yet they advanced, closing up their ranks as fast as they were opened by the fire of the Americans. But when within the reach of musketry and rifles, the Americans poured in such a tremendous and destructive fire, that the British columns were literally swept away. Unable to stand the shock, confusion followed, and Gen. Pakenham in the attempt to rally his troops was killed.

The two Generals Gibbs and Kean, succeeded in pushing forward their columns the second time, but this was more fatal than the first. The continued rolling fire from the American lines resembled peals of thunder. A few platoons only reached the ditch, to meet a more certain destruction.

A third attempt was made to lead up the troops which proved equally unavailing. Gen. Gibbs and Kean were severely wounded, the former mortally.

The plain before the American lines now presented a wide field of blood. Seven hundred of the British were killed, 1400 wounded, and 500 were taken prisoners—making the whole of their loss, nearly

3000 men. The loss of the Americans did not exceed *seven* killed, and they had only *six* wounded!!

The enemy soon after with great secrecy embarked on board their shipping.

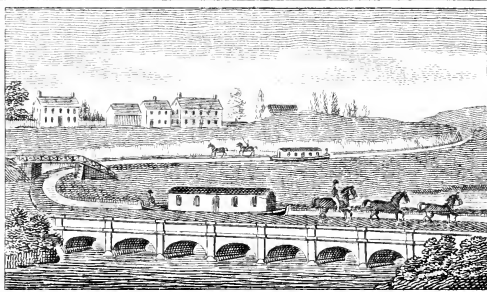
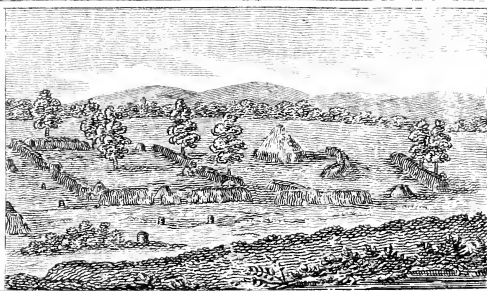


(46) *Western Antiquities.*

The numerous remains of ancient fortifications, mounds, &c. found in the Western States, are the admiration of the curious, and a matter of much speculation.

They are mostly of an oblong form, situated on well chosen ground, and near the water.

One of the fortifications or towns at Marietta, (Ohio) contains forty acres, accompanied by a wall of earth from six to ten feet high. On each side are three openings at equal distances, resembling gateways. The works are undoubtedly very ancient, as there does not appear to be any difference in the age or size of the timber growing on, or within the walls, and that which grows without; and the Indians have lost all tradition respecting them. Dr. Cutler who accurately examined the trees on the works at Marietta, thinks from appearances, that they are on the second growth, and that the works must have been built upwards of 1000 years.





At a convenient distance from these works always stands a mound of earth, thrown up in the form of a pyramid. Upon examination some of these mounds are found to contain an immense number of human skeletons.

The ancient works on the western branches of the Muskingum river, extend nearly two miles, the ramparts of which are, now in some places more than eighteen feet in perpendicular height. There must have been a dense population to have crected such works as these, and a people more devoted to labour, than the present race of Indians.

The most probable conjecture respecting these people is, that they were of Tartar origin, and came across to this continent near Behring's Strait's, and going southward, followed the course of the great rivers, finding the soil fruitful on the Ohio and Mississippi, resided there for a while, till at length following each other they established themselves in the warm and fertile vales of Mexico.



(47) *Erie Canal.*

This Grand Canal the longest in the world (if we except the Imperial Canal of China) was commenced July 4th 1817, and completed Oct. 26th,

1825, at the expense of about eight millions of dollars.

This Canal extends from Albany on the Hudson, to Buffalo on Lake Erie, a distance of 350 miles. From the Lake to the River there is generally a descent, though in some places there is an ascent: so that the aggregate of rise and fall is 662 feet, and the difference of level between the Lake and River is 564 feet.

The Canal is 49 feet wide on the surface, 28 at the bottom, and 4 feet deep. It contains 80 locks, with several considerable embankments and aqueducts. It is the property of the State of New-York, and will probably afford a large revenue for public purposes.

When the Canal was completed October 26, a Canal Boat from Lake Erie entered the Canal, which event was announced by the firing of cannon placed at suitable distances, from Lake Erie to the city of New-York, and from thence back again to Lake Erie.

On the 5th of November, when the Canal Boat arrived at the city of New-York, the day was celebrated by splendid processions, military parades, &c. &c.

In the aquatic procession which accompanied the Canal Boat from New-York to Sandy Hook.



were 22 Steam Boats and Barges. When they arrived at the Hook, Governor Clinton went through the ceremony of uniting the waters, by pouring that of Lake Erie into the Atlantic.



(48.) *General La Fayette's Visit.*

Gilbert Mottie, La Fayette, the *Marquis de la Fayette*, America's early and tried friend, was born on the 6th of September, 1757, in the province of *Auvergne*, now the department of Haute Loire, in France, about 400 miles from Paris.

He sprang from the ancient and illustrious family of Mottie, which, for several centuries past, has added the name of La Fayette. In 1774, at the age of seventeen, he was married to the Countess Anastasie de Noailles, daughter of the Duke de Noailles. The fortune of this lady, added to his own, increased his income to about 40,000 dollars annually; an immense revenue at that period.

The contest between Great Britain and her North American colonies was a subject of much interest to the nations of Europe, especially to the French people. The Marquis La Fayette fired with enthusiastic ardour in the cause of Liberty, tore himself from an affectionate family and the honours of the court, and notwithstanding the prohibition of the

French court, embarked for America in January, 1777, and entered the American army as a volunteer, without compensation. The American Congress struck with his magnanimity, gave him the commission of a Major General in the army of the United States.

His gallant conduct at the battle of Brandywine, (where he was wounded,) and at many other places till the close of the war, proved him worthy of the confidence placed in him.

La Fayette likewise gave large sums for the purpose of clothing and arming the American troops.

After the close of the revolutionary war, La Fayette returned to France, where he was appointed commander of the French armies. During the furious and bloody storm of the French Revolution, he was obliged to flee, and surrender himself to the Austrians, who imprisoned him in the castle of *Omultz*.

Having suffered a rigorous imprisonment for five years, he was through the influence of Buonaparte (afterwards Emperor of France) released on the 25th of August, 1797.

After an absence of forty years, General La Fayette determined once more to visit the country of his adoption. Congress hearing of his determination offered a public ship for the conveyance of the "NATION'S GUEST," but he politely declined

their offer, and chose a private conveyance. He accordingly with his son, George Washington La Fayette, embarked at Havre, on board the ship *Cadmus*, and arrived at New-York Aug. 16, 1824.

He was received with enthusiastic demonstrations of joy, by all classes of the American people. From New-York he proceeded by land to Boston, passing through New-Haven, and Providence. From Boston he proceeded to Portsmouth, N. H. from whence he returned to Boston, and New-York, passing through Worcester, Hartford, and Middletown. From New-York he went up the Hudson, visiting Albany and other places on the river. Returning to New-York he proceeded on to Philadelphia, Baltimore, and Washington. Here he was received by the House of Representatives and Senate of the United States, who voted him two hundred thousand dollars and a township of land for the important services rendered by him during the Revolutionary war.

General La Fayette commenced his tour from Washington, through the southern and western States, and returned to Albany by the way of Buffalo and the Grand Canal. From Albany he proceeded to Boston through Springfield, where he arrived on the 16th of June, and was received by the Legislature of Massachusetts then in session. On

the 17th he was present at the ceremony of laying the foundation stone of the Bunker Hill Monument. He then visited the States of New-Hampshire, Maine and Vermont, and returned to New-York to participate in the celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of American Independence.

He took his final leave of New-York, July 14th, visited the Ex-Presidents in Virginia, and soon after embarked for France on board the frigate *Brandywine*, followed with the grateful benedictions of the American people.

## QUESTIONS.



SCENE 1. What is said of our country before the arrival of the Europeans? how were the Indians divided and governed? describe their persons. What was the employment of the men and women? can you describe their dress? their ornaments? habitations? their instruments of war? their domestic utensils? money? did the Indians believe in a future state? describe their burials. What ideas had they of God? what was their manner of worship? what is said of their powaws or priests? of their traditions?

SCENE 2. Who was the first European that discovered the coast of the United States? by whom was he employed? in what year did he make the discovery? how long after the first discoveries of Columbus? who first established a settlement in North America? at what time, and where was the settlement made?

SCENE 3. What is said of Captain Smith? how was he taken by Indians? who doomed him to death? who saved his life? in what manner?

SCENE 4. Who plotted the destruction of the colony at Jamestown? in what manner? how were the colonists saved? who did Pocahontas marry? what is

said of her after this event? what is said of her descendants?

SCENE 5. What was the principal object in planting the colony at Plymouth? by what name were the colonists called? what is said of the Puritans before they sailed for America? give an account of their voyage, landing, and place of settlement.

SCENE 6. Describe the manner of the colonists discovering Indian corn. By whom were they instructed how to raise it?

SCENE 7. By what Indian prince were the Plymouth colonists befriended? describe the manner of the treaty with Massasoit. How long did this treaty last? what else is said respecting Massasoit?

SCENE 8. In what year, and by whom was Connecticut first settled? give an account of the journey to Connecticut river. What do you say respecting the settlement of Hartford? New-Haven?

SCENE 9. What were the Indians remarkable for? give an account of the stratagem of a Pequot Indian.

SCENE 10. In what year was the war with the Pequots? what was the cause of the war? how many men were employed in the expedition against the

Pequots ! give an account of the attack and destruction of the fort.

SCENE 11. Where was Mr. Elliot's native place ? what is said of him after his arrival in New England ? what is said respecting his Indian Bible ? what was the success of the gospel among the Indians ?

SCENE 12. What is supposed to have been the object of king Philip in commencing this war ? what was the immediate cause of the war ? what else is said of Philip ? describe the attack and deliverance of Brookfield.

SCENE 13. Why did the English attack the Narragansetts ? who commanded the expedition ? how many men were employed ? describe the Narragansett fort. Describe the manner of attack. What decided the contest ? how many of the Indians were destroyed ? what loss did the English sustain ?

SCENE 14. What misfortune befel Philip ? by whom was he pursued ? describe the manner of his death. Repeat the Indian's speech over the body of Philip.

SCENE 15. Why were Colonels Goffe and Whalley obliged to flee into New-England ? when did they arrive ? what is said respecting their characters, &c. ? were they ever taken ? why ?

SCENE 16. In what year and by whom was Pennsylvania granted to William Penn? what city was he the founder of? what is said respecting his purchases of the natives? his government? laws? what is said of the Quakers and Indians?

SCENE 17. What is said respecting the government of Britain over the colonies? who was first appointed Governor General over New England? in what year did he arrive in Hartford to demand the charter? how was it preserved?

SCENE 18. What is said respecting the war between England and France? at what time did the French and Indians attack Schenectady? describe the manner of the attack. What is said respecting those who escaped.

SCENE 19. In what year did what is called 'Salem Witchcraft,' take place? how were the people afflicted? how many were executed for this crime? how did it cease?

SCENE 20. In what year fell the greatest snow ever known? describe an occurrence which took place in this storm.

SCENE 21. In what year did the Spaniards invade Georgia? describe the stratagem of General Oglethorpe. What success did it have?



SCENE 22. On what expedition was General Braddock sent? what passed between him and Colonel Washington? how was he defeated?

SCENE 23. What was the object of the Stamp Act? describe the Act. What was done in Boston when this Act went into operation? at Portsmouth?

SCENE 24. What was the object of the British ministry in allowing the East India company to ship tea to America? how did the Americans proceed on this? how was the tea destroyed in Boston harbour? what did the British ministry when they were informed of it?

SCENE 25. When did General Gage send an armed force to Concord? for what purpose? describe the battle of Lexington. What took place after?

SCENE 26. When and how was Breed's hill fortified? by whom? how did the British commence the attack? describe the battle, and final result. Who was killed in this action?

SCENE 27. When and where did the first general Congress meet? what did they? who was appointed commander in chief of the American army? when did the British evacuate Boston?

SCENE 28. Who were appointed to draft a declaration of Independence? who drafted the declaration?

when was Independence declared ? describe the transactions at New-York.

SCENE 29. When was the most gloomy period of the Revolution ? describe Washington's retreat through New-Jersey. What is said of his army ? give an account of Gen. Washington's recrossing the Delaware, and his victory over the enemy.

SCENE 30. Where did Miss McCrea and her lover reside ? what method did he use to convey her to the British camp ? describe the manner of her death. What effect did this murder have upon the Americans ?

SCENE 31. In what year did General Burgoyne invade the northern States ? what was his object ? describe his progress. How and by whom was he forced to surrender ?

SCENE 32. Describe General Putnam's situation at Horseneck. How did he escape ?

SCENE 33. Where was Stony Point ? when was it taken ? by whom ? describe the storming of the fort. What is said respecting the conquerors ?

SCENE 34. What is said respecting Gen. Arnold ? who was Andre, and what is said respecting him ? by whom was he arrested ? describe the manner of his

arrest. What did he do after he was discovered ? by whom was he tried ? how was he executed ? at what time ?

SCENE 35. What event decided the Revolutionary contest ? when did it take place ? how was it effected ? what is said respecting the surrender ? what of Cornwallis ?

SCENE 36. When did Washington issue his farewell orders to the army ? where did he take leave of his officers ? describe the manner.

SCENE 37. In what year was the Constitution of the United States formed ? who was elected the first President ? when was he inaugurated President ? where did the ceremony take place ? describe the scene.

SCENE 38. Who first suggested the utility of lightning rods ? where, and what year ? relate the experiment by which Dr. Franklin established his theory.

SCENE 39. Who was the inventor of steam-boats ? where was the first steam-boat built in this country ? what is said respecting it ?

SCENE 40. From whom was Louisiana obtained ? for what price ? when did Captain Lewis and Clark set out upon their expedition ? where did they encamp the first winter ? when did they discover the sources

of the Missouri ? how long is this river ? when did they arrive at the Pacific ocean ? when did they set out upon their return, and at what time did they arrive at St Louis ?

SCENE 41. Give an account of the American and British fleets, and of the commencement of the action ? what did Perry do after his ship was rendered unmanageable ? what is said respecting the battle ? what loss on each side ?

SCENE 42. By whom were the British assisted, in the battle between Gen. Harrison and Gen. Proctor ? what is said respecting Col. Johnson ? Describe the manner of Tecumseh's death. What is said respecting Tecumseh ?

SCENE 43. At what time was the city of Washington burnt ? by whom ? what buildings, &c. were destroyed ?

SCENE 44. What was the number of the British land and naval forces that approached Plattsburg ? Describe the battle on Lake Champlain. What is said respecting the attack by the land forces ?

SCENE 45. By whom, and at what time, was the city of New-Orleans attacked ? who commanded the American forces ? what number and what kind of troops did he command ? describe his fortifications.

Describe the attack of the British. What was the loss of the British? what was the loss of the Americans?

SCENE 46. Where are the remains of ancient fortifications found? of what form and situation? describe those at Marietta, and on the branches of the Muskingum. What is the probable conjecture concerning the people that made these works?

SCENE 47. When was the Erie Canal commenced? when finished? what was the expense? how many miles does it extend? how wide is the canal? how deep? whose property is it? describe the ceremonies that were performed on the completion of the canal.

SCENE 48. Where was Gen. La Fayette born? what is said respecting his family? when, and what caused him to enter the American army? What services did he perform? by whom was he imprisoned, how long, and how liberated? when did he arrive in this country? after how long an absence? what places did he visit? what did Congress do respecting him? when did he take his final leave of New-York, and how was he conveyed to France?

A  
**CHRONOLOGICAL TABLE,**  
OF THE  
DISCOVERIES, SETTLEMENTS, WARS,  
AND  
REMARKABLE EVENTS,  
IN THE  
**UNITED STATES.**



*Discoveries and Settlements.*

1492. America first discovered by Columbus.
1497. North America first discovered by Sebastian Cabot, a Venetian in the service of England.
1500. Florida first discovered by John Cabot.
1539. Ferdinand de Soto, a Spaniard, landed in Florida with 1200 men in search of gold. He penetrated into the country, discovered the Mississippi. He and more than half of his men perished ; the remainder arrived at Mexico Sept. 1543.
1607. First British settlement in North America at Jamestown in Virginia.
1608. Capt. Smith first explored the Chesapeake. Canada settled by the French. Quebec founded.

1610. Capt. Hudson discovered the Manhattan, now Hudson River.
1611. Capt. Hudson discovered the Bay which bears his name.  
Lake Champlain discovered.
1614. Capt. Smith made a fishing voyage to the northern part of America—made a chart of the coast which he presented to Prince Charles, who named the country New-England.  
Settlements commenced by the Dutch at Manhattan, now New-York, at Albany, and in New-Jersey.
1619. Capt. Dermer, the first Englishman who sailed through Long Island Sound.
1620. Plymouth settlers arrived at Plymouth Dec. 22.
1623. First settlement of New-Hampshire at Little Harbour and at Dover.
1627. Delaware and Pennsylvania settled by the Swedes and Fins.
1629. Salem settled by Gov. Endicott.
1630. Charlestown, Boston, Watertown, and Dorchester settled by Gov. Winthrop and others.
1633. Maryland settled by Lord Baltimore and a colony of Roman Catholics.
- The Dutch erect a fort on Connecticut River in the present town of Hartford.
1634. Wethersfield, Con. settled by people from Dorchester, Mass

- 1636. Hartford settled by Mr. Hooker and his congregation from Newtown, Cambridge, Mass.
- Providence, Rhode Island, settled and named by Roger Williams.
- 1638. New-Haven settled by Mr. Davenport, Eaton, and others.
- 1639. Newport, Rhode Island, settled,
- 1643. Confederation of the colonies of Massachusetts, Plymouth, Connecticut, and New-Haven for mutual defence.
- 1663. Carolina planted.
- 1673. New-York taken by the Dutch—restored to the English by treaty 1674.
- 1680. Charleston, South Carolina, settled.
- 1682. Pennsylvania settled by William Penn and others. Philadelphia founded.
- 1724. Settlement of Vermont.
- 1733. Georgia settled by Mr. Oglethorpe and others.
- 1740. Tennessee explored by Cols. Wood, Patton, Dr. Walker and others.
- 1765. The settlement of Tennessee commenced.
- 1773. Kentucky settled by Col. Boon and others.
- 1804. Captains Lewis and Clark explored the Missouri to its source, crossed the Rocky Mountains, arrived at the Pacific Ocean in November, 1805, returned to the United States in 1806.



*Indian and French Wars.*

1622. The Indians massacred 349 of the Virginian colonists, March 22.
1637. War with the Pequots in Connecticut. Their fort taken by surprise and destroyed, May 26.
1675. King Philip's war in New England commenced. Brookfield burnt. Deerfield burnt. Captain Lathrop with 80 men surprised by the Indians ; almost every man slain, Sept. 18.  
Gov. Winslow with 1000 men attack the Narragansetts (the allies of Philip) in their fort ; the fort destroyed, and their country ravaged, December.
1676. King Philip killed, Aug. 12, which ends the war.
1690. A body of French and Indians from Montreal burn Schenectady, and massacre the inhabitants, February 8.
1704. Deerfield burnt, and most of the inhabitants carried captive, February 28.
1710. Port Royal in Nova Scotia taken by General Nicholson, and its name changed to Annapolis, October 2.
1711. Expedition against Quebec—failed by the loss of transports in the St. Lawrence, August.
1712. War with the Tuscaroras in North Carolina. They are defeated, flee to the Five Nations, and form a sixth tribe.

- 1715. A general conspiracy against the Carolinians by the Yamases, Cherokees, and other tribes. Gov. Craven attacked and defeated them in their camp.
- 1742. Spanish invasion of Georgia failed.
- 1745. Louisburgh and Cape Breton taken by the New England troops, aided by a British squadron, June 17.
- 1746. French expedition under duke Anville which threatened New England failed, by means of storms, sickness in the fleet, &c.
- 1753. The French erect forts on the back of the colonies.
- 1754. Colonel Washington with 400 men in fort Necessity, surrendered to the French, July 4.
- 1756. General Braddock defeated, July 9.
- 1757. Fort William Henry surrendered to the French.
- 1758. Lewisburg taken by the British and reduced to a heap of ruins, June.  
General Abercrombie defeated by the French at Ticonderoga with the loss of 1300 men, July.
- 1759. Ticonderoga and Crown Point taken by General Amherst, July and August.  
Battle of Quebec. General Wolf commander of the British, and Montcalm, commander of the French forces killed. Quebec taken, Sept.
- 1761. The Cherokee Indians defeated by Col. Grant, and compelled to make peace, June.

- 1762. Havanna taken from the Spaniards by the British and colonial troops. Multitudes of the troops fell victims to the plague.
- 1763. Treaty of peace signed at Paris. Canada, Nova Scotia, and Cape Breton ceded to the British king, February 10.
- 1778. General Sullivan attacks and defeats the Indians on the Susquehanna, and ravages their country.
- 1781. Massacre at Wyoming, July 1.
- 1790. Gen. Harmer defeated by the Indians in Ohio.
- 1791. Gen. St. Clair defeated by the Indians.
- 1794. Gen. Wayne gains a decisive victory over the Indians on the Miami, Aug. 20.
- 1797. Collisions with the French Republic.
- 1799. Captain Truxton in the Constellation took the French frigate Insurgent, February 10.
- 1800. Treaty of peace with France, September 30.
- 1813-4. War with the Creek Indians.



### *Events in the Revolutionary War.*

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- 1765. Stamp Act passed March. Riots in Boston, &c.
  - 1766. Stamp Act repealed, March 13.
  - 1770. Riots in Boston. The British troops killed four of the inhabitants, March 5.
  - 1774. Tea destroyed at Boston, December 16.  
     Port of Boston shut by act of Parliament, March.  
     First Congress convened at Philadelphia, Sept. 4.

1775. Lexington battle, April 19.

Ticonderoga taken by Col. Allen, May.

George Washington takes the command of the American army near Boston, July 2.

Battle of Bunker Hill, June 17.

Gen. Montgomery enters Canada--takes Montreal. Col. Arnold with 3000 men passes through a wilderness into Canada ; arrives at Quebec.

Unsuccessful attack on Quebec. Gen. Montgomery killed, Dec. 31.

1776. The American army expelled from Canada.

Norfolk, (Va.) burnt by the British, Jan. 1.

The British evacuate Boston, March 17.

Attack on Charleston, S. C. British defeated.

Gen. Howe and Admiral Lord Howe, with 24,000 men, arrive at Sandy Hook, June.

DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE July 4.

Battle on Long Island,—Americans defeated with the loss of upwards of 1000 men, July 27.

New-York abandoned by the American army, Sept. 14.

Battle of White Plains, Oct. 28.

Capture of Fort Washington, 2700 men surrendered Nov. 16.

The American army retreats through New-Jersey, crosses the Delaware, Dec.

Gen. Lee taken prisoner, Dec. 13.

Battle at Trenton, 1000 Hessians made prisoners December, 26.

1777. Battle at Princeton, Gen. Mercer killed, Jan. 3.  
 Danbury Conn. burnt, Gen. Wooster killed  
 April 28.  
 Battle of Brandywine, Gen. Lafayette wounded  
 Sept. 11.  
 Gen. Howe with the British army, enters Philadelphia, Sept. 26.  
 Battle at Bennington, August.  
 Battle of Germantown, Oct. 5.  
 Gen. Burgoyne with 5700 men, surrendered to  
 Gen. Gates, Oct. 17.
1778. Treaty of Alliance with France, signed, Feb. 6.  
 Battle of Monmouth, many soldiers died by the  
 heat, June 28.  
 Savannah taken by the British, Dec.
1779. The British make incursions into Virginia, property to an immense amount destroyed.  
 The British plunder New-Jersey, June.  
 Gov. Tryon invades New-Haven, July 5. Fairfield and Norwalk burnt.  
 Stony Point taken by Gen. Wayne, July 15.
1780. Charleston, S. C. surrendered to the British, May 12.  
 Gen. Rochambeau arrives at Newport, R. I. with a French fleet and army, July 10.  
 Battle of Camden, the Americans under Gen. Gates defeated, August 16.  
 Treason of Arnold, Major Andre taken and executed, Oct. 2.

1781. Battle of the Cowpens, Gen. Morgan defeats the British under Col. Tarlton, Jan. 17.  
 Battle of Guilford, N. C., between Gen. Greene and Lord Cornwallis, March 8.  
 New-London burnt, fort Griswold stormed, and the garrison put to death, Sept. 6.  
 Battle of Eutaw springs, British defeated, September 8.  
 The British army under Lord Cornwallis, surrendered at Yorktown, Virginia, to Gen. Washington, which closed the Revolutionary war. Nov. 2.
1782. Provisional articles of peace signed, Independence of the United States, acknowledged, Nov. 30.
1783. Definitive treaty, signed, Sept. 3.  
 American army disbanded, Nov. 3.



*Second War with Great Britain.*



1807. The American frigate Chesapeake fired into by the British frigate Leopard, off the Capes of Virginia, 3 men killed, 16 wounded, June 22.
1809. Non intercourse with Great Britain and France, established by Congress, March 1.
1811. Engagement between the American frigate President, Capt. Rogers and a British sloop of war, Little Belt, Captain Bingham, May.

1811. Battle of Tippacanoë between Gen. Harrison and the Indians, Nov 7.

1812. *Declaration of war* by the United States, against Great Britain, June 18.

Gen. Hull surrendered his army and the fort of Detroit to the British, Aug. 16.

U. S. frigate Constitution, Capt. Hull, captured the British frigate Gurriere, Capt. Dacres, Aug. 19.

U. S. frigate United States, Com. Decatur, captured the Macedonian, Oct. 25.

Battle at Queenstown, U. Canada, Gen. Brock killed, Oct. 3.

U. S. frigate Constitution, Com. Bainbridge, captured the Java, Dec. 29.

1813. Bloody action at the river Raisin, between Americans under Gen. Winchester, and the British and Indians under Gen. Proctor, Gen. Winchester killed and the American prisoners massacred by the Indians Jan. 22.

U. S. sloop of war Hornet, Capt. Lawrence, captured the British sloop of war Peacock, Capt. Peak, who was killed.

York (Upper Canada) taken by the Americans, Gen. Pike killed, April 27.

U. S. frigate Chesapeake, Capt. Lawrence, captured by the British frigate Shannon, Capt. Lawrence killed, June 1.

The American fleet on Lake Erie, under Com.

Perry, capture the British fleet under Com. Barclay, Sept. 10.

Gen. Harrison defeats the British and Indians under Gen. Proctor, Tecumseh killed Oct. 5.  
Detroit fell into the hands of the Americans.

1814. U. S. frigate Essex, Capt. Porter, captured by a superior force, March 28.

Fort Erie taken by the Americans, July.

Battle of Chippewa, July 6.

Washington captured and burnt by the British under Gen. Ross, August 23.

Attack on Baltimore, Gen. Ross killed Sept. 12.

Unsuccessful attack by the British under Gen. Drummond, on fort Erie, Aug. 14.

Castine taken by the British, Sept. 1.

Com. Macdonough captures the British fleet on Lake Champlain, retreat of Gen. Provost, from Plattsburg, Sept. 11.

1815. Memorable victory of Gen. Jackson over the British, before New-Orleans, Jan. 8.

Treaty of peace between the United States and Great Britain, signed at Ghent, December 24, ratified by the President and Senate, Feb. 17, 1815. .



*Remarkable Events.*  
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1618. A great pestilence destroyed most of the Indians from Narraganset to Penobscot.
1620. African slaves first brought into Virginia, by a Dutch ship and sold.
1624. The first cattle brought into New-England.
1631. First vessel built in Massachusetts called the *Blessing of the Bay* launched July 4.
1636. The *Desire*, a ship of 120 tons, built at Marblehead, the first American ship that made a voyage to England.
1638. Great earthquake in New-England, June 1.  
Two tremendous storms in Aug. and Dec. tide rose 14 feet above spring tides at Narraganset, and flowed twice in six hours.
1639. First Baptist church in America formed at Providence, R. I.  
Severe tempest and rain, Connecticut river rose 20 feet above the meadows, March.  
Sugar first imported from the West-Indies.  
*First printing* in North America at Cambridge, Mass., by Samuel Green. The first thing printed was the Freeman's oath.
1642. Severe winter, Boston and Chesapeak Bays frozen.
1643. Earthquake in New-England.
1647. First influenza mentioned in the annals of America.

- 1656. The Friends or Quakers first came to Mass.  
Four executed in 1659.
- 1663. Great earthquake in Canada and New-England,  
Jan. 26.
- 1664. Mr. Elliot's *Indian Bible* printed at Cambridge,  
the first Bible printed in America.
- 1687. Charter of Conn. hid from Andross in a hollow  
oak and saved.
- 1690. Bills of credit first issued by Massachusetts.
- 1697. Severe winter, the Delaware frozen.
- 1699. Yellow fever in Philadelphia.
- 1702. First emission of paper currency in South Caro-  
lina.  
Rice introduced into the southern states from the  
island of Madagascar.
- 1704. *First Newspaper* in America, published in Bos-  
ton.
- 1708. Saybrook Platform, formed by a Synod of minis-  
ters under the authority of the State of Con-  
necticut.
- 1709. First issuing of Paper currency in New-York.
- 1717. The greatest snow storm ever known, Feb.
- 1719. Northern Lights appeared in New-England Dec.  
11.
- 1721. First inoculation for the small pox in America,  
performed in Boston, by Dr. Boylston at the  
recommendation of Dr. Cotton Mather.
- 1722. First issuing of Paper in Pennsylvania.
- 1735. Free Masonry introduced into America, July.

1740. George Whitfield a celebrated preacher first arrives in America, he dies at Newburyport Mass. Sept. 30th 1770, on his seventh visit to America.
- 1741-2. Very severe Winter.
1745. Indigo plant discovered in South Carolina.
1752. New Style introduced into Britain and America September 2 reckoned 14.
1752. Charleston S. C. laid under water by a tempest, September.
- Dr. Franklin makes his Electrical experiments.
1755. Great Earthquake, Nov. 18.
1762. *Severest Drought* known in America, no rain from May to September.
1764. Medical Lectures first read in Philadelphia.
1774. The Shakers first arrived from England, they settled near Albany.
1780. *Dark day* in the northern States candles necessary at noon.
1782. First American 74 launched at Portsmouth N. H. Nov. 5.
- 1783-4. Severe Winter, great floods in March.
1786. Shay's insurrection in Massachusetts.
1788. Federal constitution ratified and became the constitution of the United States.
1789. Gen. Washington inaugurated first President ; April 30.
1797. John Adams elected President.
1799. Washington died, Dec. 14 Aged 68.

1800. Great snow in Carolina and Georgia.  
Great flood in the Connecticut March.  
Seat of government transferred from Philadelphia to Washington (District of Columbia.)
1801. Thomas Jefferson elected President of United States.
1802. Merino sheep introduced into the United States by Mr. Livingston and Gen. Humphreys.
1803. Louisiana purchased from the French government.
1804. Gen. Hamilton killed in a duel with Col. Aaron Burr, vice president of the United States.
1807. First Steam Boat built in this country.  
Col. A. Burr arrested on the charge of treason.
1809. James Madison elected President.
1816. *American Bible Society* formed May 8th.  
Cold summer. Frost every month in the year in the Northern States.  
*Bank of the United States* with a capital of 35 millions of dollars incorporated April.
1817. Grand canal in the State of New-York commenced.  
James Monroe elected President.
1824. Gen. LaFayette arrived at New-York.
1825. John Quincy Adams elected President.
1826. Thomas Jefferson and John Adams two Ex Presidents died July 4 on the fiftieth anniversary of American Independence.

## APPENDIX.



### A.

The following, "*full and correct account*" of the Battle of Bunker Hill, is taken from a pamphlet published in Boston June 17, 1825.

After the affair at Lexington and Concord on the 19th April, 1775, the people, animated by one common impulse, flew to arms in every direction. The husbandman changed his ploughshare for a musket, and about 15,000 men, 10,000 from Massachusetts, and the remainder from New-Hampshire, Rhode-Island, and Connecticut, assembled under Gen. Ward, in the environs of Boston, then occupied by 10,000 highly disciplined and well-equipped British troops, under the command of Generals Gage, Howe, Clinton, Burgoyne, Pigot, and others.

Fearing an intention on the part of the British to occupy the important heights at Charlestown and Dorchester, which would enable them to command the surrounding country, Col. Prescott was detached, by his own desire, from the American camp at Cambridge, on the evening of the 16th June, 1775, with about 1000 militia, mostly of Massachusetts, including 120 men of Putnam's regiment

from Connecticut, and one Artillery company, to Bunker Hill, with a view to occupy and fortify that post. At this hill the detachment made a short halt, but concluded to advance still nearer the British, and accordingly took possession of Breed's Hill, a position which commanded the whole inner harbor of Boston. Here, about midnight, they commenced throwing up a redoubt, which they completed, notwithstanding every possible effort from the British ships and batteries to prevent them, about noon the next day.

So silent had the operations been conducted through the night, that the British had not the most distant notice of the design of the Americans, until day-break presented to their view, the half-formed battery and the daring stand made against them. A dreadful cannonade, accompanied with shells, was immediately commenced from the British battery at Copps' Hill, and the ships of war and floating batteries stationed in Charles River.

The break of day on the 17th June, 1775, presented a scene, which for daring and firmness could never be surpassed—1000 unexperienced militia, in the attire of their various avocations, without discipline, almost without artillery and bayonets, scantily supplied with ammunition, and wholly destitute of provisions, defying the power of the formidable

British fleet and army, determined to maintain the liberty of their soil or moisten that soil with their blood.

Without aid, however, from the main body of the army, it seemed impossible to maintain their position—the men having been without sleep, toiling through the night, and destitute of the necessary food required by nature, had become nearly exhausted. Representations were repeatedly made, through the morning, to Head-Quarters, of the necessity of reinforcements and supplies. Major Brooks, the late revered Governor of Massachusetts, who commanded a battalion of minute-men at Concord, set out for Cambridge about 9 o'clock on foot, it being impossible to procure a horse, soliciting succour, but as there were two other points exposed to the British, Roxbury and Cambridge, then the Head-Quarters, at which place all the little stores of the army were collected, and the loss of which would be incalculable at that moment, great fears were entertained lest they should march over the neck to Roxbury, and attack the camp there, or pass over the bay in boats, there being at that time no artificial avenue to connect Boston with the adjacent country, attack the Head-Quarters and destroy the stores; it was therefore deemed impossible to afford any reinforcement to

Charlestown Heights, till the movements of the British rendered evidence of their intention certain.

The fire from the Glasgow frigate and two floating batteries in Charles River, were wholly directed—with a view to prevent any communication—across the isthmus that connects Charlestown with the main land, which kept up a continued shower of missiles, and rendered the communication truly dangerous to those who should attempt it. When the attention of the British to attack the heights of Charlestown became apparent, the remainder of Putnam's regiment, Col. Gardner's regiment, both of which, as to numbers, were very imperfect, and some New-Hampshire Militia, marched, notwithstanding the heavy fire across the neck, for Charlestown Heights, where they arrived, much fatigued, just after the British had moved to the first attack.

The British commenced crossing troops from Boston about 12 o'clock, and landed at Moreton's Point, S. E. from Breed's Hill. At 2 o'clock, from the best accounts that can be obtained, they had landed between 3 and 4,000 men, under the immediate command of Gen. Howe, and formed, in apparently invincible order, at the base of the hill.

The position of the Americans at this time was a redoubt on the summit of the height of about eight rods square, and a breastwork, extending on



the left of it, about seventy feet down the eastern declivity of the hill. This redoubt and breastwork was commanded by Prescott in person, who had superintended its construction, and who occupied it with the Mass. militia, of his detachment and a part of Little's regiment, which had arrived about one o'clock. They were dreadfully deficient in equipments and ammunition, had been toiling incessantly for many hours, and it is said by some accounts even then were destitute of provisions.—A little to the eastward of the Redoubt, and northerly to the rear of it, was a rail fence, extending almost to Mystick river,—to this fence another had been added during the night and forenoon, and some newly mown grass thrown against them to afford something like a cover to the troops.—At this fence the 120 Connecticut militia were posted.

The movements of the British made it evident their intention was to march a strong column along the margin of the Mystick and turn the redoubt on the north, while another column attacked it in front; accordingly to prevent this design a large force became necessary at the breastwork and rail fence. The whole of the reinforcements that arrived, amounting in all to about 800 or 1000 men, were ordered by Gen. Putnam, who had been extremely

active throughout the night and morning, and who had accompanied the expedition to this point.

At this moment thousands of persons of both sexes had collected on the Church steeples, Beacon Hill, house tops, and every place in Boston and its neighbourhood, where a view of the battle-ground could be obtained, viewing, with painful anxiety, the movements of the combatants—wondering, yet admiring, the bold stand of the Americans, and trembling at the thoughts of the formidable army marshalled in array against them.

Before 3 o'clock the British formed, in two columns, for the attack—one column, as had been anticipated, moved along the Mystick River with the intention of taking the redoubt in the rear, while the other advanced up the ascent directly in front of the redoubt, where Prescott was ready to receive them. Gen. Warren, President of the Provincial Congress and of the Committee of Safety, who had been appointed but a few days before a Major-General in the Mass. troops, had volunteered on the occasion as a private soldier, and was in the redoubt with a musket, animating the men, by his influence and example, to the most daring determination.

Orders were given to the Americans to reserve their fire till the enemy advanced sufficiently near

to make their aim certain. Several vollies were fired by the British with but little success ; and so long a time had elapsed, and the British were allowed to advance so near the Americans without their fire being returned, that a doubt arose whether or not the latter intended to give battle—but the fatal moment soon arrived :—when the British had advanced to within about eight rods, a sheet of fire was poured upon them and continued a short time with such deadly effect that hundreds of the assailants lay weltering in their blood, and the remainder retreated in dismay to the point where they had first landed.

From day-light to the time of the British advancing on the works, an incessant fire had been kept up on the Americans from the ships and batteries—this fire was now renewed with increased vigour.

After a short time the British officers had succeeded in rallying their men, and again advanced, in the same order as before, to the attack. Thinking to divert the attention of the Americans, the town of Charlestown, consisting of 500 wooden buildings, was now set on fire by the British—the roar of the flames, the crashing of falling timbers, the awful appearance of desolation presented, the dreadful shrieks of the dying and the wounded in the last attack, added to the knowledge of the for-

midable force advancing against them, combined to form a scene apparently too much for men bred in the quiet retirement of domestic life to sustain—but the stillness of death reigned within the American works—and nought could be seen but the deadly presented weapon, ready to hurl fresh destruction on the assailants. The fire of the Americans was again reserved till the British came still nearer than before, when the same unerring aim was taken, and the British shrunk, terrified, from before its fatal effects, flying, completely routed, a second time, to the banks of the river, and leaving, as before, the field strewed with their wounded and their dead.

Again the ships and batteries renewed their fire, and kept a continual shower of balls on the works. Notwithstanding every exertion, the British officers found it impossible to rally the men for a third attack; one third of their comrades had fallen; and finally it was not till a reinforcement of more than 1000 fresh troops, with a strong park of artillery, had joined them from Boston, that they could be induced to form anew.

In the mean time every effort was made on the part of the Americans to resist a third attack; Gen. Putnam rode, notwithstanding the heavy fire of the ships and batteries, several times across the neck to induce the Militia to advance, but it was

only a few of the resolute and brave who would encounter the storm. The British receiving reinforcements from their formidable main body—the town of Charlestown presenting one wide scene of destruction—the probability the Americans must shortly retreat—the shower of balls pouring over the neck—presented obstacles too appalling for raw troops to sustain, and embodied too much danger to allow them to encounter.—Yet, notwithstanding all this, the Americans on the heights were elated with their success, and waited with coolness and determination the now formidable advance of the enemy.

Once more the British aided by their reinforcements, advanced to the attack, but with great skill and caution—their artillery was planted on the eastern declivity of the hill, between the rail fence and the breast-work, where it was directed along the line of the Americans, stationed at the latter place, and against the gate-way on the north-eastern corner of the redoubt—at the same time they attacked the redoubt on the south-eastern and south-western sides and entered it with fixed bayonets. The slaughter on their advancing was great, but the Americans not having bayonets to meet them on equal terms, and their powder being exhausted, now slowly retreated, opposing and ex-

tricating themselves from the British with the butts of their pieces.

The column that advanced against the rail fence was received in the most dauntless manner. The Americans fought with spirit and heroism that could not be surpassed, and had their ammunition have held out, would have secured to themselves a third time the palm of victory; as it was, they effectually prevented the enemy from accomplishing his purpose, which was to turn their flank and cut the whole of the Americans off; but having become perfectly exhausted, this body of the Americans also slowly retired, retreating in much better order than could possibly have been expected from undisciplined troops, and those in the redoubt having extricated themselves from a host of bayonets by which they had been surrounded.

The British followed the Americans to Bunker Hill, but some fresh militia at this moment coming up to the aid of the latter, covered their retreat. The Americans crossed Charlestown Neck about 7 o'clock, having in the last twenty hours performed deeds which seem almost impossible. Some of them proceeded to Cambridge and others posted themselves quietly on Winter and Prospect Hills.

From the most accurate statements that can be found, it appears the British must have had near-

5,000 soldiers in the battle ; between 3 and 4,000 having first landed, and the reinforcement amounting to over 1,000. The Americans, throughout the whole day, did not have 2,000 men on the field.

The slaughter on the side of the British was immense, having had nearly 1,500 killed and wounded ; twelve hundred of which were either killed or mortally wounded,—the Americans about 400.

Had the Commanders at Charlestown Heights become terrified on being cut off from their main body and supplies, and surrendered their army, or even retreated before they did, from the terrific force that opposed them, where would have now been that ornament and example to the world, the Independence of the United States.—When it was found that no reinforcements were to be allowed them, the most sanguine man on that field could not have even indulged a hope of success, but all determined to deserve it—and although they did not obtain a victory, their example was the cause of a great many.—The first attempt on the commencement of a war is held up, by one party or the other, as an example to those that succeed it, and a Victory or Defeat, though not, perhaps, of any great magnitude in itself, is most powerful and important in its effects. Had such conduct as was here ex-

hibited, been in any degree imitated by the immediate Commander in the first military onset of the last war, how truly different a result would have been effected to the fatal one that terminated that unfortunate expedition.

From the immense superiority of the British at this stage of the war, having a large army of highly disciplined and well equipped troops, and the Americans possessing but few other munitions or weapons of war, and but little more discipline, than what each man possessed when he threw aside his plough and took the gun that he had kept for pastime or for profit, but now to be employed for a different purpose, from off the hooks that held it,—perhaps it would have been in their power, by pursuing the Americans to Cambridge, and destroying the few stores that had been collected there, to implant a blow which could never have been recovered from, but they were completely terrified. The awful lesson they had just received, filled them with horror, and the blood of 1500 of their companions who fell on that day, presented to them a warning which they could never forget. From the Battle of Bunker Hill sprung the protection and the vigour that nurtured the Tree of Liberty, and to it, in all probability, may be ascribed our Independence and Glory.



The name of the first martyr that gave his life for the good of his country on that day, in the importance of the moment was lost, else a Monument, in connection with the gallant Warren, should be raised to his memory. The manner of his death was thus related by Colonel Prescott :

“ The first man that fell in the Battle of Bunker Hill was killed by a cannon ball, which struck his head. He was so near me that my clothes were besmeared with his blood and brains, which I wiped off, in some degree, with a handful of fresh earth. The sight was so shocking to many of the men, that they left their posts and ran to view him. I ordered them back, but in vain. I then ordered him to be buried instantly. A subaltern officer expressed surprise that I should allow him to be buried without having prayers said ; I replied, this is the first man that has been killed, and the only one that will be buried to-day. I put him out of sight that the men may be kept in their places. God only knows who, or how many of us, will fall before it is over. To your post, my good fellow, and let each man do his duty.”

The name of the patriot who thus fell is supposed to have been POLLARD, a young man belonging to Billerica. He was struck by a cannon ball thrown from the line-of battle-ship Somerset.

## B.

The interval between the 19th of September and the 7th of October was employed by both armies in fortifying their respective camps. Gen. Burgoyne had contemplated an attack on the 20th and 21st September, which, had it been made, would probably have resulted much to his advantage, as the American camp was then in an unfortified state, and the troops wholly unprepared for a rigorous resistance. For some cause, however, the attack was delayed. This gave time to Gen. Gates to complete the unfinished works and to strengthen his army by reinforcements of militiamen, who were daily flocking to his camp. Satisfied that a delay would operate to the advantage of the American army, by increasing their strength and numbers, whilst at the same time it must prove disadvantageous to the enemy, General Gates, it seems, determined to wait their movements within his own entrenchments. Here he remained until the 7th October, when the last decisive action was fought, which decided the fate of the army under Gen. Burgoyne and ultimately resulted in the triumph of American Liberty. The commencement, progress, and termination of this brilliant engagement is thus described by Gen. Wilkinson :

\* On the afternoon of October 7th, the advanced guard of the centre beat to arms; the alarm was repeated throughout the line, and the troops repaired to their alarm posts. I was at head quarters when this happened, and with the approbation of the General, mounted my horse to inquire the cause; but on reaching the guard where the beat commenced, I could obtain no other satisfaction, but that some person had reported the enemy to be advancing against our left. I proceeded over open ground, and ascending a gentle acclivity in front of the guard, I perceived about half a mile from the line of our encampment, several columns of the enemy, 60 or 70 rods from me, entering a wheat field which had not been cut, and was separated from me by a small rivulet; and without my glass I could distinctly mark their every movement. After entering the field they displayed, formed the line, and set down in double ranks with their arms between their legs. Forages then proceeded to cut the wheat or standing straw, and I soon after observed several officers, mounted on the top of a cabin, from whence with their glasses they were endeavouring to reconnoitre our left, which was concealed from their view by intervening woods.

“ Having satisfied myself, after fifteen minutes attentive observation, that no attack was medita-

ted, I returned and reported to the General, who asked me what appeared to be the intentions of the enemy. "They are foraging, and endeavouring to reconnoitre your left; and I think, sir, they offer you battle." "What is the nature of the ground, and what your opinion?" "Their front is open, and their flanks rest on the woods, under cover of which they may be attacked; their right is skirted by a lofty height. I would indulge them." "Well, then, order on Morgan to begin the game." I waited on the Colonel, whose corps was formed in front of our centre, and delivered the order; he knew the ground and inquired the position of the enemy; they were formed across a newly cultivated field, their grenadiers with several field pieces on the left, bordering on a wood and a small ravine formed by the rivulet before alluded to; their light infantry on the right, covered by a worm fence at the foot of the hill before mentioned, thickly covered with wood; their centre composed of British and German battallions. Col. Morgan, with his usual sagacity, proposed to make a circuit with his corps by our left, and under cover of the wood to gain the height on the right of the enemy, and from thence commence the attack, so soon as our fire should be opened against their left; the plan was the best which could be devised, and no doubt

contributed essentially to the prompt and decisive victory we gained.

“ This proposition was approved by the General, and it was concerted that time should be allowed the Colonel to make the proposed circuit, and gain his station on the enemy’s right before the attack should be made on their left ; Poor’s brigade was ordered for this service, and the attack was commenced in due season on the flank and front of the British grenadiers, by the New-Hampshire and New-York troops. True to his purpose, Morgan at this critical moment poured down like a torrent from the hill, and attacked the right of the enemy in front and flank. Dearborn, at the moment when the enemy’s light infantry were attempting to change front, pressed forward with ardor, and delivered a close fire ; then leaped the fence, shouted, charged, and gallantly forced them to retire in disorder ; yet, headed by that intrepid soldier, the Earl of Balcarras, they were immediately rallied, and re-formed behind a fence in rear of their first position ; but being now attacked with great audacity, in front and flanks, by superior numbers, resistance became vain, and the whole line, commanded by Burgoyne in person, gave way, and made a precipitate and disorderly retreat to his camp, leaving two twelve and six six pounders ;

on the field, with the loss of more than 400 officers and men, killed, wounded and captured, and among them the flower of his officers, viz. Brigadier General Frazier, Major Ackland, commanding the grenadiers; Sir Francis Clark, his first aid-de-camp; Major Williams, commanding officer of the artillery; Captain Mooney, deputy quarter-master-general; and many others. After delivering the order to General Poor, and directing him to the point of attack, I was peremptorily commanded to repair to the rear, and order up Ten Broeck's regiment of New-York militia, 3000 strong. I performed this service, and regained the field of battle at the moment the enemy had turned their backs—52 minutes after the first shot was fired. The ground which had been occupied by the British grenadiers, presented a scene of complicated horror and exultation. In the square space of twelve or fifteen yards lay eighteen grenadiers in the agonies of death, and three officers propped up against stumps of trees, two of them mortally wounded, bleeding, and almost speechless. What a spectacle for one whose bosom glowed with philanthropy; and how vehement the impulse which excites men of sensibility to seek such scenes of barbarism! I found the courageous Col. Cilley a-straddle on a brass twelve pounder, and exulting in the capture;

whilst a surgeon, a man of great worth, who was dressing one of the officers, raising his blood-be-smeared hands in the phrenzy of patriotism, exclaimed, "Wilkinson, I have dipped my hands in British blood." He received a sharp rebuke for his brutality; and with the troops I pursued the hard pressed flying enemy, passing over killed and wounded, until I heard one exclaim, "Protect me, sir, against this boy." Turning my eyes, it was my fortune to arrest the purpose of a lad thirteen or fourteen years old, in the act of taking aim at the wounded officer, who lay in the angle of a worm fence. Inquiring his rank, he answered, "I had the honor to command the grenadiers." Of course, I knew him to be Major Ackland, who had been brought from the field to this place, on the back of Captain Shrimpton, of his own corps, under a heavy fire, and was here deposited, to save the lives of both. I dismounted, took him by the hand, and expressed my hopes that he was not badly wounded. "Not badly," replied this gallant officer and accomplished gentleman, "but very inconveniently. I am shot through both legs. Will you, sir, have the goodness to have me conveyed to your camp?" I directed my servant to alight, and we lifted Ackland into his seat, and ordered him to be conducted to head quarters. I then proceeded to

the scene of renewed action, which embraced Burgoyne's right flank defence, and extending to his left, crossed a hollow covered with wood, about 40 rods, to the entrenchment of the light infantry.—The roar of cannon and small arms, at this juncture, was sublime, between the enemy, behind their works, and our troops entirely exposed, or partially sheltered by trees, stumps, or hollows, at various distances, not exceeding 120 yards. This right flank defence of the enemy, occupied by the German corps of Breyman, consisted of a breast work of rails piled horizontally between perpendicular pickets, driven into the earth, *en potence* to the rest of his line, and extended about 250 yards across an open field, and was covered on the right by a battery of two guns. The interval from the left to the British light infantry, was committed to the defence of the provincialists, who occupied a couple of log cabins. The Germans were encamped immediately behind the rail breast work, and the ground in front of it declined, in a very gentle slope, for about 120 yards, when it sunk abruptly. Our troops had formed a line under this declivity, and covered breast high, were warmly engaged with the Germans. From this position, about sunset, I perceived Brigadier General Learned advancing towards the enemy with his brigade, in open column,



I think with Col. M. Jackson's regiment in front, as I saw Lieut Colonel Brooks, who commanded it, near the General when I rode up to him. On saluting this brave old soldier, he inquired, "Where can I *put in* with most advantage?" I had particularly examined the ground between the left of the Germans and the light infantry, occupied by the provincialists, from whence I had observed a slack fire. I therefore recommended to General Learned to incline to his right, and attack at that point. He did so, with great gallantry; the provincialists abandoned their position and fled. The German flank was, by this means, left uncovered. They were assaulted vigorously, overturned in five minutes, and retreated in disorder, leaving their gallant commander, Lieut. Colonel Breyman, dead on the field. By dislodging this corps, the whole British encampment was laid open to us; but the extreme darkness of the night, the fatigue of the men, and disorder incident to undisciplined troops, after so desultory an action, put it out of our power to improve the advantage; and in the course of the night, General Burgoyne broke up his camp, and retired to his original position, which he had fortified, behind the great ravine."

On the morning of the 8th, the American army marched into the British camp, which had been

deserted the evening previous. The enemy continued to retreat till they had reached the height beyond the Fish Creek, where they encamped on the 10th. Finding his retreat cut off by a party of troops, who had taken a position in his rear, and his advance impeded by superior numbers, General Burgoyne accepted the terms of capitulation, proposed by General Gates, and surrendered his whole army to the American forces, on the 17th October, 1777.

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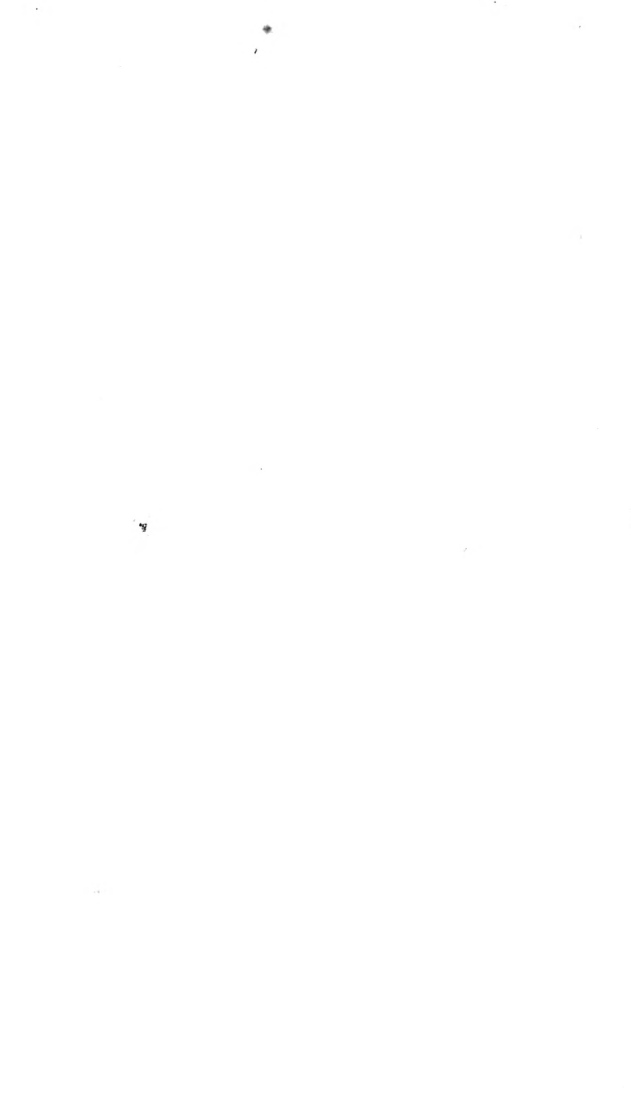
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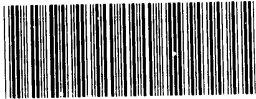






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